

Amal, Israeli boats exchange fire

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Shi'ite Amal militiamen exchanged heavy machinegun fire with three Israeli gunboats trying to approach this South Lebanese port, Lebanese security sources said Saturday night. An Israeli aircraft was shot down during a raid on Palestinian camps (See story below). The security sources said the gunboats, some two kilometres off the coast, were met with heavy machinegun fire from militiamen deployed along the seashore, as they tried to move in closer. The boats opened up in reply, raking the city's coastal concrete. Residents of the area, huddling for shelter in corridors, said an Israeli helicopter had downed over the city. An Amal official hinted that the militia might be prepared to do a deal with Israel over the captured aircraft.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

Soviet envoy meets Baz in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — A senior Kremlin envoy on Tuesday briefed Egypt on the recent U.S.-Soviet summit and discussed ways of improving bilateral relations. Vladimir Polyakov, director of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Middle East Department, had a two-hour meeting with Osama Baz, a top aide to President Hosni Mubarak. Mr. Polyakov told reporters: "I'm here at the instructions of the Soviet leadership to inform Egypt about the outcome of the (Reykjavik) summit" between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Mr. Polyakov, who arrived on Friday, said he had a meeting scheduled with Mr. Mubarak on Sunday. He said his discussions with Dr. Baz on other topics had revealed "full understanding." Mr. Polyakov was Moscow's ambassador to Egypt until he was expelled in 1981 by the late President Anwar Sadat, accused of fomenting internal unrest. The rift lasted three years until relations were restored under Mr. Mubarak in July 1984. Mr. Polyakov's visit follows intensified contacts between the two countries over the past few months, marking a further upturn in ties between Moscow and Cairo.

Volume 11 Number 3300

AMMAN, SUNDAY OCTOBER 19, 1986, SAFAR 16, 1407

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Civil defence team to attend Riyadh seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director General Khaled Al Tarawneh left for Saudi Arabia on Saturday at the head of a delegation of high-ranking CDD officers at the invitation of Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz to attend a Saudi-Swiss seminar on civil defence which will open on Sunday in Riyadh. Lt.-Gen. Tarawneh said participants in the four-day seminar will discuss various topics on natural hazards and security, impacts of armament, planning and design of shelters, firefighting, safety equipment, civil safety strategy, nuclear radiations, earthquakes, pollution and other subjects.

France and S. Arabia hold defence talks

RIYADH (R) — French Defence Minister Andre Giraud and Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, on Saturday discussed ways to boost defence cooperation, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. France is a major weapon supplier to the kingdom, including its navy which guards 2,000 kilometres of coast on the Red Sea and in the Gulf. Before leaving Paris on Friday, Mr. Giraud told the Saudi daily Al Riyadh that military cooperation between the two countries was based on a strong foundation and that the current talks should open new horizons.

Ghana reports attack on government offices

LONDON (AP) — Ghanaian radio said a gang of people claiming to represent worshippers from a "controversial mosque" attacked Accra City council offices, causing considerable damage. The state-controlled Accra Radio, monitored in Britain, said Friday night that the attack earlier in the day came after authorities in the West African nation ordered that the mosque be demolished. It quoted a statement by Ghana's military government saying most of those taking part in the attack were "alien Muslims" from the city's predominantly Muslim Cow Lane and Zongo Lane areas. The radio did not say how many people were involved in the attack nor what was meant by the expression alien Muslims.

Shamir asks Shultz to close PLO offices

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Prime Minister-designate Yitzhak Shamir asked U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to close the two offices of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the United States, Israel Radio reported Saturday. According to the report, Mr. Shamir wrote Mr. Shultz the PLO offices should be closed after the Palestinian guerrilla organisation claimed responsibility for a grenade attack in Jerusalem Wednesday night. One man was killed and 69 were wounded in the attack. The PLO has offices in Washington and New York. The foreign ministry spokesman was unavailable Saturday to confirm the report.

INSIDE

- * Sudan seen as possible breadbasket for the Arab World, page 2
- * W.A.J. promises fresh water to Zarga, page 3
- * Economic recovery — a lesson from Singapore, page 4
- * City of London takes the fast track, page 5
- * Lendl faces Becker in Australian finals, page 6
- * U.S. Congress passes \$597 billion spending bill, page 7
- * Pravda says Washington wants to undermine ABM treaty, page 8

Saudi leader launches fresh bid to mediate Syria-Iraq differences

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Crown Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia arrived unexpectedly in Damascus on Saturday in an apparent fresh mission aimed at reconciling Syria and Iraq.

Prince Abdullah, who was greeted at the airport by Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, is also expected to visit Baghdad, news agencies quoted diplomatic sources as saying.

Foreign diplomats who insisted on anonymity told AP that Prince Abdullah, who heads an Arab League reconciliation committee, was carrying a letter from King Fahd to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. Riyadh Radio reported Friday night that it expected Prince Abdullah to express "the worries of the Arab countries in the Gulf as to the expected large-scale, new Iranian offensive against Iraq and will seek again Syrian efforts to stop the war" in which Syria backs Iraq.

Despite that support, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa was quoted Friday as

saying his nation would help defend the Gulf countries if they were attacked by Iran.

"These countries have not committed aggression and have not fought against Iran," he was quoted as telling the Lebanese Arabic weekly magazine "Al Hawadeth."

But he gave no indication Syria was ready to drop its hostility to Iraq. The two are led by rival wings of the Arab Socialist Baath Party.

Prince Abdullah visited Baghdad and Damascus last year to try to resolve the long-standing Iraq-Syria feud but all efforts to reconcile leaders of the two countries have so far failed.

A meeting between the Syrian and Iraqi foreign ministers, which His Majesty King Hussein tried to set up in June with Saudi backing, was cancelled at the last minute.

Jordan has said that its efforts and the Saudi moves complemented each other.

Vice-President Khaddam has told a Saudi newspaper that differences between the Syria and Iraq predated the Gulf war. He said Damascus and Baghdad hoped to end the causes of the dispute "but this required a long discussion."

Syria shut down an Iraqi oil pipeline across its territory in 1982 and has been receiving oil from Tehran.

Earlier this month, Baghdad rejected a suggestion from President Assad that a union between Syria and Iraq could bring an end to the six-year-old Gulf conflict.

Prince Abdullah's fresh mission comes before a summit meeting early next month of the Gulf Cooperation Council at which the Gulf war will be high on the agenda.

Leaders of the council, which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman, have repeatedly expressed concern that the war could spill over into the rest of the region.

Iraq urges U.N. efforts to end Iranian missile attacks

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq has called on the United Nations to intervene with Iran to stop firing long-range missiles at Baghdad, Iraqi radio reported Saturday.

The appeal was contained in a letter sent on Friday to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar by Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, Baghdad Radio said. It quoted the letter as saying that Iraq hopes the United Nations "takes up its responsibilities towards ending the repeated Iranian aggression."

The letter was sent a day after an Iranian missile struck a residential neighbourhood of Baghdad, killing six people and injuring 64 others.

It was the third Iranian attack on Baghdad since Aug. 12, and Iran said it was in retaliation for Iraq's recent air raids on Iranian economic and oil installations.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar mediated an end to tit-for-tat rocketing of Iranian and Iraqi cities in the summer last year. In that three-month "war of the cities," Iraqi warplanes repeatedly bombed the Iranian capital of Tehran and other Iranian cities, while Iranian gunners fired a dozen surface-to-surface missiles into Baghdad.

Meanwhile, Iraq announced overnight that its warplanes had struck "a large maritime target" near the Iranian coast. Iraq generally uses the phrase to describe oil tankers sailing to and from Kharg Island. (See related story on page 2).

Weinberger denies U.S. failed to consult its allies

ROME (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger on Saturday denied a NATO general's allegations that Washington had not kept the alliance military adequately informed about its arms limitation proposals at the Iceland summit.

"There was very thorough consultation with all concerned," Mr. Weinberger told a news conference on the second day of a visit to Italy.

But Mr. Weinberger, who had earlier briefed Italian leaders on the summit, refused to be drawn into a storm over remarks by General Hans Joachim Mack, deputy supreme allied commander, Europe.

Gen. Mack said on Thursday that NATO's top military command was not properly briefed before or after Reykjavik on the U.S. position on medium-range missiles. His remarks were met with puzzlement by NATO Secretary-General Lord Carrington.

Mr. Weinberger, on the fourth stop of a round-the-world tour, said in answer to a question about

the students were trained to use light machineguns, rocket-propelled grenades and mortars during assignments with all seven Iraqi army corps, stationed along the 1,180-kilometre front line with Iran.

Teachers accompanied the students in training camps close to the fronts. This was the first time since the war began in 1980 that university students have gone near the front. Iraqi officials said they did not take part in combat.

President Saddam Hussein said on Oct. 4 that the Iraqi leadership had decided to allow the students to return to their colleges to continue their studies.

He said necessary arrangements had been made to confront an expected Iranian offensive and "there was no need to involve 100,000 fighters from among students and professors in the battle."

Assistant military chief of staff for training, Lieutenant-General Saadi To'ma Al Jibouri, told reporters the students' experience had "reflected the cohesion of the Iraqi people with their armed forces."

Mr. Mack's remarks: "I think Lord Carrington has made an adequate statement with respect to that subject."

After a stop in Frankfurt Sunday night, he will travel to Glencage, Scotland, on Monday for a ministerial meeting of NATO at which American diplomats said Gen. Mack's allegations were sure to be discussed.

Mr. Weinberger said the Reykjavik talks, which broke down after tentative agreements on arms reductions, had illustrated the Soviet Union's determination to interrupt progress on the U.S. strategic defence initiative (SDI).

The United States attributed the breakdown of the talks to Soviet insistence on a 10-year delay in American testing of the so-called "Star Wars" project outside the laboratory.

"The Soviet Union has never changed its determination to try to block our development of strategic defence," Mr. Weinberger said. "In any event, we proceed with strategic defence."

League meets to discuss Ifrane summit

TUNIS (R) — Arab League foreign ministers were meeting on Saturday to discuss the Israeli-Moroccan summit at the first such high-level meeting since the encounter nearly three months ago.

The much-delayed session falls after one of the summit participants, Shimon Peres of Israel, handed over the premiership this week to hardliner Yitzhak Shamir. Mr. Peres met King Hassan in Ifrane, Morocco, in July.

A total of 11 foreign ministers of the 21-member league were due to attend the 86th six-monthly council session, which has technically been held open since a low-level meeting in mid-September, Arab diplomatic sources said.

The Ifrane summit was on the agenda at the request of Syria, which broke diplomatic ties with Morocco following the meeting, the sources added.

The meeting of foreign ministers, many of whom were last month busy attending the opening of the United Nations annual General Assembly, has been successively postponed.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called for an extraordinary summit to discuss the Ifrane meeting shortly after it took place, but the proposal did not receive enough initial support.

Saturday's meeting was chaired by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim, whose country denounced the Ifrane summit as an outrage against the Arab Nation.

Syria, which broke diplomatic ties with Morocco after the summit, requested that the Hassan-Peres meeting be put on the agenda.

Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi appealed in an opening speech for member states not to dwell on controversial issues, but on points of agreement.

"Concerning political, questions, which lend themselves to controversy more than others, it would be better to stress points of agreement in order to preserve inter-Arab relations and guarantee the effectiveness of common action, and not to dwell too much on points of discord," he said.

Mr. Klibi said that confidence in the league by its 21 members had been called into question, and that confidence needed to be reaffirmed.



KING VISITS GHQ: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, confers with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb and senior Armed Forces officers during a visit he paid to General Headquarters on Saturday (Petra photo)

Rifai and high-level delegation in Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and a high-level delegation arrived here Saturday on a three-day visit during which they will discuss with Kuwaiti leaders and officials current Arab and international affairs and bilateral relations.

Mr. Rifai and the delegation were met on arrival here by Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and senior Kuwaiti officials. The delegation accompanying Mr. Rifai includes Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Mueasher, Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh, Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and Central Bank Governor Hussein Al Qasem.

Official talks headed by Mr. Rifai and Sheikh Saad are scheduled to begin Sunday. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the talks would also cover the six-year-old Iran-Iraq war. Mr. Rifai is scheduled to meet representatives of the Jordanian expatriate community living in Kuwait on Sunday.

Dr. Mueasher held a round of talks Saturday evening with his Kuwaiti counterpart, Sheikh

Faisal Abdul Razak Al Khaled, on bilateral economic and trade links and prospects for joint ventures, Petra said. Dr. Odeh, Dr. Khatib and Mr. Qasem attended the talks. The talks also covered Jordan's five-year development plan, Petra added.

In Amman Kuwaiti ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Al Bahi described Mr. Rifai's visit to Kuwait as part of ongoing consultations and coordination between the two countries for bolstering and launching joint Arab action that could serve the Palestinian cause.

The ambassador told Petra that the talks in Kuwait would cover bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural and trade affairs.

Mr. Bahi said that certain economic projects would be discussed in the meetings and these would be included in a Jordanian-Kuwaiti economic agreement that would be concluded and signed at the end of Mr. Rifai's visit to Kuwait.

The ambassador expressed hope that the coming years would witness Kuwait's contribution to the implementation of Jordan's five-year development plan.

Captive Israeli moved to Bekaa

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — A downed Israeli aircraft captured by Amal militiamen in South Lebanon has been smuggled into the Syrian-held Bekaa Valley to discourage any Israeli rescue bid, sources close to Amal said Saturday.

Witnesses said Palestinian fighters and militiamen were out in force on Saturday along the 40-kilometre Beirut-Sidon coast road and on hillsides near this southern port city, but no Israeli military action was reported.

The aircraft is one of two who ejected from a Phantom jet fighter-bomber shot down near the southern port of Sidon during a raid on Palestinian camps on Thursday.

His comrade was snatched back unharmed by an Israeli helicopter. Israel, determined to recover the captured flyer, says it will hold Amal responsible for his safety.

The sources close to Amal said the Israeli was taken to the

Berri says swap possible

DAMASCUS (R) — Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri said Saturday a captured Israeli aircraft could be exchanged for Lebanese and Palestinians held by Israel.

Mr. Berri, leader of the Shi'ite Amal movement, did not confirm that the Israeli navigator was held by his men. He has been out of Lebanon for several days.

But he told reporters in the Syrian capital: "If reports that he is in the hands of Amal militia are true, then for sure he should be swapped through international channels for all Lebanese and Palestinian captives held by Israeli authorities."

Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon on Friday as a precaution against Israeli military

Prince Hassan calls for boosted Arab-Sino ties

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday urged scholars to explore specific ways to strengthen the Arab World's relations with China in the context of the South-South dialogue.

Speaking at the opening session of the first Arab-Sino dialogue organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF), the Crown Prince called on participants to work towards identifying areas of interdisciplinary cooperation with China on all levels.

He said that action towards the goal of sharing experience

between the Arab World and China was long overdue and that specific ideas and themes needed to be developed — whether the approach was that of a political, economic or social nature.

"We should identify areas for potential cooperation," he said, stressing that officials on both sides should be made aware of subjects of complementary nature.

He said that Chinese and Arabs as well as all South West Asians could enhance bilateral cooperation in a manner beneficial to the region.

(Continued on page 3)

Potash company moving towards easing burdens

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Potash Company (APC) is taking firm steps towards easing its financial burdens and covering its losses of JD 30.8 million by the year 1991, according to the company's managing director, Mr. Ali Ensour.

This year, Mr. Ensour said in an interview, the potash plant will attain a higher production level of 87.5 per cent of design capacity, which is 1.2 million tonnes per year, compared to 76 per cent last year.

He said the company was expecting a levelling-off of prices by the end of 1987, when demand is expected to pick up with supply remaining almost constant and prices increasing up to levels of around \$90-\$95 per tonne around 1990-1991, from the current \$81 level.

The company has a massive expansion programme inspired by a determination to expand Jordan's share in the world potash market. Mr. Ensour believes that with the expansion the company will be able to reach the break-even point in 1987 and

cover its losses by 1991.

The APC has plans to modify the potash refinery to bring it up to design capacity and to optimise its production to 16.6 per cent over design capacity. The present production rate is 1,050,000 tonnes a year.

The contract for the first phase of modification and optimisation is about to be awarded. Mr. Ensour said in the interview with the Jordan Times.

The second phase of expansion, Mr. Ensour said, is concerned with downstream industries. The company is preparing specifications for tendering the second phase within two to three months. Both phases are expected to be finalised in 15 to 18 months at the cost of \$25 million.

The World Bank is lending the company \$13 million and the Islamic Development Bank is providing \$8 million. The rest is provided by the company itself.

Part of the funds for financing these projects has been accounted for within the five-year development plan. Each of the extraction plants is expected to cost nearly JD 50 million.

See full story on APC on page 5

2 hurt in east Beirut bomb blast

BEIRUT (R) — A bomb exploded under a car in a residential and commercial district of east Beirut on Saturday, damaging nearby buildings, security sources said.

They said two people were injured by the explosion in the Sinn Al Fil area.

Voice of Lebanon radio, which interrupted its programmes to report the blast, gave the names of three people it said were injured.

Witnesses saw people running away from the scene as ambulances arrived to evacuate the casualties.

About 160 people have been killed in bomb attacks in various areas of the Lebanese capital this year.

Several people were seen lying on the ground immediately after Saturday's explosion.

Over 10,000 students clash with police in Seoul

SEOUL (R) — Riot police fired tear gas to disperse more than 10,000 students demonstrating against the South Korean government of President Chun Doo-Hwan in the streets of Seoul on Saturday, witnesses said.

The students shouted: "Away with American and Japanese imperialism!" "Drive out military dictatorship!" with constitutional change," and "Achieve democratic unification (with communist North Korea)."

Police arrested many of the protesters, who attacked police with rocks and wooden staves, but the exact figure was not immediately available. Some were punched and kicked as they were being detained, the witnesses said.

Radical students have accused Washington and Tokyo, Seoul's main allies, of impeding democracy here by supporting Mr. Chun and of dominating South Korea politically and economically.

The students took to the streets after watching a friendly soccer match between Yonsei and Korea

universities at a stadium on the south-eastern outskirts of the capital, venue of the Asian Games from Sept. 20 to Oct. 5.

The clash came a day after a member of parliament from the dissident-backed opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) was arrested for an allegedly pro-communist statement he made in parliament on Tuesday.

Representative Yoo Sung-Hwan was taken to a Seoul prison after he told parliament that capitalist South Korea's primary national policy should be reunification with North Korea rather than anti-communism.

State prosecutors, saying his remarks echoed northern propaganda aimed at making the south communist by force, charged him with violating the national security law, which prohibits all activities favouring Pyongyang with a maximum penalty of death.

The opposition party accused the government of fabricating pro-communist charges against Yoo to stifle democracy.

Iraqi raids disable Iran's last 2 oil berths at Kharg Island

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraqi air raids have knocked out the last two working berths at Iran's main Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf, shipping sources in the region said Saturday.

The sources said the loading of tankers was continuing through a flexible pipeline from the mainland but exports were severely restricted because only one vessel could be filled at a time.

Iraq, which has reported more than 120 raids on Kharg in the past 13 months to deny Iran vital revenue to continue the six-year-old Gulf war, launched heavy strikes on the island on Oct. 6 and 14.

The sources said the crippling of all 14 berths on Kharg — most of them put out of action in late 1985 and earlier this year — would hurt Iranian oil exports.

In Geneva, a Tehran delegate at the current OPEC talks said on Oct. 6 Iran exported 1.47 million barrels per day (BPD) of crude in

September — significantly higher than industry analysts had estimated.

Shipping sources said it was not immediately known how long Iran would take to repair any of the disabled berths on the southern end of the island.

But they said Iran, which needed at least two usable jetties to maintain its oil export level, could continue indefinitely with the flexible pipeline from Ganavah, 25 kilometres away on the mainland.

The sources said the pipeline would be a difficult target for attacking Iraqi aircraft.

On Oct. 6, Iraq said a large number of its warplanes dealt a "knockout" blow to a jetty at Kharg. Last Wednesday, Baghdad

reported another raid on the island, losing one of its planes in the attack.

Iran uses a fleet of tankers to shuttle oil from Kharg to the southern Gulf, where it has established a makeshift export terminal off Larak Island in the Strait of Hormuz between Iran and Oman to feed larger vessels.

Omani navy ships searched Saturday for missing crew members of a Panamanian tanker attacked close to the Strait of Hormuz by Iran a day earlier. Gulf marine salvage officers reported.

The bodies of five crewmen have been recovered, said the officers, who spoke on condition their names not be used.

At least eight others of the 35-man crew were believed still missing, the officers said.

The 19,925-ton Five Brooks, the latest victim in the so-called Iran-Iraq tanker war, was struck off the Emir of Ras Al Khaimah within a few miles of

Oman, which straddles the Hormuz.

It was the deepest south in the Gulf that Iran has struck in the six-year war and the closest by Iran to the strategic southern gateway of the Gulf. About 20 per cent of the non-Communist World's daily supply of crude oil passes through the Hormuz Strait.

The tanker was loaded with Kuwaiti bunker fuel and was on its way to the United Arab Emirates port of Khor Fakkan when it was attacked by an Iranian gunboat at dawn Friday.

The shipping sources said the gunboat fired a surface-to-surface missile at the tanker and set it ablaze.

The bodies were found on the tanker after salvage tugs cut out the fire, said the sources. Identities were not immediately available.

The crew included Panamanians, Indians, Filipinos, Sri Lankans and Algerians.

McGovern less hopeful of Arab-Israeli talks

HOUSTON (R) — The imminent change of leadership in Israel's coalition government is less hopeful for negotiations to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, former U.S. Sen. George McGovern has said.

The 1972 Democratic presidential nominee told reporters he believed Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres should have moved more quickly toward reconciliation during his term.

Sen. McGovern said the Likud Party of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who is due to replace Peres of the Labour Party on Monday, has taken a tougher stand against negotiations.

Hindawi says Israeli agents framed him

LONDON (AP) — An Arab accused of trying to plant a bomb aboard an El Al Jumbo jet in London speculated Friday that he might have been framed in Syria by an Israeli intelligence agent.

Nezar Hindawi, on trial for alleged helping his pregnant fiancée into carrying a bomb aboard the Boeing 747 on April 17, has claimed that he was trying to smuggle drugs, not explosives.

Hindawi, 32, has testified that the Syrian who recruited him into a drug ring in Damascus told him to find a young woman to carry drugs hidden in hand luggage aboard the plane. He said he used his Irish girlfriend, Anne-Marie Murphy, to smuggle the supposed drugs and did not think she was in danger.

Testifying for the third day, Hindawi suggested that either an Israeli agent had infiltrated the drug ring or that an El Al security official in London had switched the luggage for one with explosives hidden inside.

Arafat adviser denies report of retirement

AMMAN (J.T.) — Khaled Al Hassan, a senior adviser to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, has denied a report that he was leaving active day-to-day PLO affairs.

In an interview with Radio Monte Carlo broadcast Friday night, Mr. Hassan expressed surprise at a report carried by the International News Agency earlier in the day in a dispatch from Tunis that he was retiring from active work in PLO affairs.

He told the radio that he was "surprised that a respectable news agency carried such a story."

The agency had carried the news of Mr. Hassan's alleged retirement as part of a story the agency moved to cover Wednesday's grenade attack on Israeli soldiers in Jerusalem and quoted Mr. Hassan as saying that his decision to leave active work within the PLO was based on Palestinian divisions over "moderation."

The talks, attended by 200 delegates from Arab countries, France, Ireland, Turkey and the United States, focussed on collective action by the Arab World to become self-sufficient in food.

Delegates argued that the region's heavy reliance on foreign suppliers gave the outside world unacceptable political and economic leverage in Arab affairs.

The study by A. Charnes, an expert with the Centre for Cybernetic Studies in Texas, and S. Duffuss and A. Al Saffar of the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, said Sudan could play a key role in achieving the strategic goal of food security for the Arab World.

They said several previous studies had already noted "the huge demand for food in the Middle East and the potential of Sudan in meeting that demand."

The recipe was viable cooperation between countries with complementary economic sectors, they said, suggesting as a model possible collaboration between Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt.

The oil boom of the 1970s had given Saudi Arabia and Kuwait vast reserves of capital which could help to finance a joint scheme, while Egypt could provide skilled labour.

Sudan, they said, had vast expanses of land suitable for agriculture, received good rains and had a big labour pool.

Of its 625 million acres, 200 million were arable and received adequate rains ranging between 23 mm and 1,500 mm a year.

It got 18.5 billion cubic metres of irrigation water a year from the Nile River under a 1959 accord with Egypt, making permanent irrigation possible, and also had underground water reserves.

Conservation projects could boost water supplies.

Of the land identified as arable, 120 million acres was suitable for plant cultivation, although only 17 million was used now, and the rest for grazing.

The labour force, comprising 37 per cent of the population, rose by three per cent a year — equal to 195,000 workers and capable of increasing cultivated land by 2.5 to 3.0 million acres a year as well as meeting non-agricultural needs.

The experts said a problem arose over the shortage of skilled labour, but they suggested that skilled workers could be imported from Egypt for a temporary transition period.

The conference was warned that the Arab food import bill could quadruple to \$200 billion a year by the end of the century unless effective action was taken to combat shortages.

One prediction, citing unnamed experts' studies, held that the Middle East, North Africa and "regions bordering the African desert" would suffer 45 per cent of a 145 million tonnes annual food shortfall envisaged in the world by the year 2000.

The joint American-Saudi Arabian study projected major rises in imports of basic food products, except milk, for the Middle East, which it defined as North Africa and South West Asia.

Foreign wheat purchases were envisaged soaring to 681.7 million tonnes a year by the end of the century from an estimated 6.7 million in 1985.

Iranian defectors arrive in Oslo from S. Korea

OSLO (R) — Four Iranian weightlifters who sought asylum in the Iraqi consulate in South Korea after taking part in the Asian Games have arrived in Norway, police said Saturday.

They were taken from the airport for questioning by immigration officials, a spokesman said. It was not known whether they were seeking political asylum in Norway or were in transit to Iraq, he said.

The South Korean government said Saturday the four had been sent to "a European country which takes a strictly impartial position" between Iran and Iraq, bitter enemies in the Gulf war.

The four broke away from other members of the Iranian team as they were preparing to leave Seoul airport at the end of the Asian Games earlier this month.

On the same day, the Mujahadeen said the sportsmen fled to the consulate to join the guerrilla movement, which opposes the rule of revolutionary

leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The four men were named as Bajand Siamak, Bahmanyar Ardeshir, Montazeri Samad and Rezvani Mehdi.

Their departure was arranged through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), it said.

The Seoul statement said the South Korean government had consulted the countries concerned in the incident as well as the UNHCR.

A representative of UNHCR ascertained the will of the four Iranians. As a result... they left Seoul, according to their wishes," it added.

Iraq and South Korea maintain consulates-general in each other's capital but do not have full diplomatic ties. Iran has ambassadorial relations with South Korea.

A day after the athletes disappeared, the official Iraqi News Agency reported from Seoul that they had taken refuge in the Iraqi consulate and had asked for political asylum, saying they wanted to join an Iranian opposition movement.

CAIRO (R) — All Palestinian military forces have now been pulled out of Tunisia, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was quoted Saturday as saying.

"We have completed the phased withdrawal of our forces from Tunisia and... there is no Palestinian military presence there any more," Mr. Arafat said in an interview with the weekly magazine October.

He said the decision to withdraw from Tunisia followed an Israeli air raid on PLO headquarters in Tunis on Oct. 1 last year. It was his duty to find a place which could guarantee the security of his forces, he said.

By Rory Channing
Reuter

KAUWAIT — Sudan, now ravaged by famine and civil war, could become the breadbasket of the Arab World which faces huge food shortages unless it can meet more of its own needs.

This, in theory at least, was a scenario mapped out in a joint American-Saudi Arabian study presented in Kuwait this week to the first conference on the development of Arab food industries.

The talks, attended by 200 delegates from Arab countries, France, Ireland, Turkey and the United States, focussed on collective action by the Arab World to become self-sufficient in food.

Delegates argued that the region's heavy reliance on foreign suppliers gave the outside world unacceptable political and economic leverage in Arab affairs.

The study by A. Charnes, an expert with the Centre for Cybernetic Studies in Texas, and S. Duffuss and A. Al Saffar of the University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, said Sudan could play a key role in achieving the strategic goal of food security for the Arab World.

They said several previous studies had already noted "the huge demand for food in the Middle East and the potential of Sudan in meeting that demand."

The recipe was viable cooperation between countries with complementary economic sectors, they said, suggesting as a model possible collaboration between Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt.

The oil boom of the 1970s had given Saudi Arabia and Kuwait vast reserves of capital which could help to finance a joint scheme, while Egypt could provide skilled labour.

Sudan, they said, had vast expanses of land suitable for agriculture, received good rains and had a big labour pool.

Of its 625 million acres, 200 million were arable and received adequate rains ranging between 23 mm and 1,500 mm a year.

It got 18.5 billion cubic metres of irrigation water a year from the Nile River under a 1959 accord with Egypt, making permanent irrigation possible, and also had underground water reserves.

Conservation projects could boost water supplies.

Of the land identified as arable, 120 million acres was suitable for plant cultivation, although only 17 million was used now, and the rest for grazing.

The labour force, comprising 37 per cent of the population, rose by three per cent a year — equal to 195,000 workers and capable of increasing cultivated land by 2.5 to 3.0 million acres a year as well as meeting non-agricultural needs.

The experts said a problem arose over the shortage of skilled labour, but they suggested that skilled workers could be imported from Egypt for a temporary transition period.

The conference was warned that the Arab food import bill could quadruple to \$200 billion a year by the end of the century unless effective action was taken to combat shortages.

One prediction, citing unnamed experts' studies, held that the Middle East, North Africa and "regions bordering the African desert" would suffer 45 per cent of a 145 million tonnes annual food shortfall envisaged in the world by the year 2000.

The joint American-Saudi Arabian study projected major rises in imports of basic food products, except milk, for the Middle East, which it defined as North Africa and South West Asia.

Foreign wheat purchases were envisaged soaring to 681.7 million tonnes a year by the end of the century from an estimated 6.7 million in 1985.

Suspect again denies bid to kill Kuwaiti emir

KUWAIT (R) — An Iraqi machine-gunner, Special Forces accused of trying to assassinate the emir of Kuwait and overthrow his government in May last year denied again Saturday all charges against him.

Alaa Mohammad Reda Al Atrash, 33, is on trial for his life along with four other Iraqis who are still at large. They are charged with trying to kill Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Safah in a suicide car-bomb attack.

The emir escaped with slight injuries, but five people were killed when the car laden with explosives rammed his motorcade.

Responsibility was claimed in Beirut on behalf of the clandestine Islamic Jihad (holy war) group which has demanded the release of 17 prisoners held in Kuwait in return for the freedom of American and French hostages it holds.

The trial, which started on Oct. 11, resumed in public Saturday for about 30 minutes before moving into closed session at the request of the prosecution. Atrash, who had already pleaded not guilty, repeated his plea of innocence.

Scores of armed security men surrounded the state security court, reinforced by combat vehicles mounted with machine-guns. Special-passes were needed to enter the cordoned-off premises.

When an arrest announcement was made last July, sources in Kuwait's since-dissolved parliament identified the accused as members of the banned Iraqi Al Dawa Al Islamiya (Islamic Call) group which seeks an Iranian-style government in Iraq.

A statement issued in Beirut this week on behalf of "Islamic Da'awa Party — Middle East Section" denied any links with Atrash whom, it said, was innocent.

The accused are also accused of carrying explosives and belonging to a subversive group.

The hearing, at which 33 prosecution witnesses are due to be called, was later adjourned to an unspecified date.

Kuwait, before and after the trial started, ruled out any deals with Islamic Jihad over the 17 prisoners jailed in Kuwait for bomb attacks in December 1983 at the American and French embassies and state targets.

Five Iraqis and a Lebanese were sentenced to death, three in their absence, for their role in the blasts which killed six people. As far as is known, no executions have taken place.

Emir of Bahrain receives message from Reagan

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's emir, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, received a message Saturday from President Ronald Reagan on bilateral relations, the Gulf News Agency said.

The message was delivered by U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence Richard Armitage at a meeting also attended by Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Sulman Al Khalifa, it said.

Outside sugar needs could rise to 20.3 million tonnes a year from last year's estimated 4.9 million and meat imports to 313,236 tonnes from 130,698 estimated for 1985. But milk imports would slip to 175,108 tonnes from 237,774 last year.

A priority for any joint international investments would be a fair allocation of the returns, the study said.

Alert in S. Arabia over locusts

JEDDAH (R) — Large swarms of locusts have been spotted over Saudi Arabia by satellite, setting off a national alert, the Saudi Gazette newspaper reported Saturday.

It quoted an Agriculture Ministry official as saying the warning of possible danger to croplands was passed on to the Saudi government by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation. The report did not mention a specific location and the official said experts scouring the agricultural coastal plain south of Jeddah had so far been unable to trace any swarms. But he said rainfall last month near Jizan near the North Yemen border had prompted fears that locusts might cross the Red Sea from Sudan and East Africa and ravage the country's crops.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19	23:57 News Headline 24:00 Close down
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30 Koran	
15:50 Programme review	
15:55 Health Clinic	
16:00 Young World	
17:30 Computer	
18:00 Local Agricultural programme	
18:20 Local series	
19:20 Local programme	
19:50 Programme review	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Arabic series	
21:30 Local programme	
21:55 Tomorrow's programme	
22:00 Local variety programme	
23:00 News summary in Arabic	
23:15 Close down	
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:50 Le village dans les nuages	
19:00 Cabaret	
19:00 News in French	
19:15 French varieties	
19:30 News in Hebrew	
19:45 Varieties	
20:00 News in Arabic	
20:30 Carol Burnett Show	
21:10 Documentary: Cosmos	
22:00 News in English	
22:20 Dallas	
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & parli on 9500 KHz, SW Tel: 77111-19	
07:00 Light Music	
07:30 Newsweek	
08:00 Morning Show	
08:30 News Summary	
09:00 Pop Session	
10:00 In Concert	
10:30 News Summary	
11:00 News Summary	
11:30 Pop Session Cont.	
12:00 News Bulletin	
12:30 Instrumentals	
13:00 Science Report	
13:30 Concert Hour	
14:00 News Summary	
14:30 Old Favorites	
15:00 Listeners' Choice	
15:30 News Summary	
16:00 Jazz Hour	
16:30 Newsweek	
17:00 Date with a Star	
17:30 Evening Show	
18:00 News Summary	
18:30 Evening Show Cont.	
19:00 News Summary	
19:30 Evening Show Cont.	
20:00 News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
* An exhibition entitled "Le Corbusier" at the architectural gallery at Riyadh Centre, 3rd Circle (until Oct. 30).	
* Photographic exhibition of the Villa Savoye at the architectural gallery at Riyadh Centre, 3rd Circle.	
* Paintings exhibition by Ahmad Nu'wairah at Petra Bank Gallery, Wadi Saqra Street.	
* An art exhibition by Mrs. Nayar Rashid at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Oct. 23).	
* An art exhibition by Bassem Al Sheikh Jawad at the Jordan International Hotel (until Oct. 24).	
OPERA	
* East Germany's Berlin Opera group will perform at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
ORCHESTRA	
* Youngsters Orchestra by the Jordanian Musicians Association at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.	
PANEL	
* A panel discussion on women's issues at 4:30 p.m. at the American Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	
American Centre Tel. 643371	
British Council Tel. 641520	
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009	
German Cultural Centre Tel. 641993	
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644203	
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777	
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195	
Haramain Youth City Tel. 667118/6	
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793	
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 642551	
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111	
University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and	

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS: ALIA FLIGHTS	
09:30 Agaba (RJ)	
09:30 Kuwait (RJ)	
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)	
09:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
09:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	
10:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)	
10:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)	
10:30 Athens (RJ)	
10:30 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	
10:30 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)	
10:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)	
10:30 London (RJ)	
10:30 Paris, Geneva (RJ)	
10:30 Baghdad (RJ)	
OTHER AIRLINES	
08:30 Bucharest (RO)	
09:30 Berlin (GF)	
10:30 Doha (GF)	
11:30 Vienna, New York (RJ)	
12:30 Cairo (RJ)	
13:05 Doha (MS)	
13:05 Kuwait (GF)	
14:05 Tripoli (LN)	
15:05 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)	
17:45 Athens, Damascus (OA)	
19:10 Frankfurt (LH)	
20:50 London (BA)	
DEPARTURES: ALIA FLIGHTS	
06:45 Agaba (RJ)	
06:45 Kuwait (RJ)	
06:45 Jeddah (RJ)	
06:45 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
06:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	
06:45 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)	
06:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)	
06:45 Athens (RJ)	
06:45 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)	
06:45 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)	
06:45 Madrid, Rome (RJ)	
06:45 London (RJ)	
06:45 Paris, Geneva (RJ)	
06:45 Baghdad (RJ)	
OTHER AIRLINES	
06:30 Bucharest (RO)	
07:30 Berlin (GF)	
08:30 Doha (GF)	
09:30 Vienna, New York (RJ)	
10:30 Cairo (RJ)	
11:30 Doha (MS)	
12:30 Kuwait (GF)	
13:05 Tripoli (LN)	
14:05 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)	
15:05 Athens, Damascus (OA)	
17:45 Frankfurt (LH)	
20:50 London (BA)	
PRAYER TIMES	
04:21 Fair	
05:44 (Sunrise) Doha	
11:21 Dhahran	
14:30 Air	
16:29 March	
18:22 Fair	
WEATHER	
Bullseye supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be partly cloudy, with chances for scattered rain, especially in the northwest part. Temperature will be below normal and winds will be westerly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.	
Amman 16/23	
Agaba 20/21	
Cashflow 22/21	
Damascus 15/29	
Jordan Valley 19/30	
Yesterday's high temperatures:	
Amman 24, Agaba 31. Humidity	
range: Amman 44 per cent, Agaba	
40 per cent.	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES	NIGHT DUTY
Amman governorate 891228	AMMAN: Dr. Dawoud Samhoury 635342
Amman civil defence 198, 199	Dr. Taysser Khader 606857
Civil Defence Int'd 271293, 273131	Natroukh pharmacy 723672
Civil Defence Qumaynah 707033	Dr. Salim Khader 636730
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306	Al Sahel pharmacy 680856
Ambulance 193, 775111	Khalaf pharmacy 778653
Amman downtown fire brigade 198	Firas pharmacy 661912
First aid 630341	Hinnawi pharmacy 845376
Blood bank 778303	
Civil Defence rescue 661111	TAXIS: Karnak taxi 666761
Fire headquarters 622090-3	Qaher taxi 630557
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777	Ambulance or taxi 664660
Police headquarters 639141	Al Jehad taxi 642663
Traffic police 896390/1	Queen taxi 663020
Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881	Naldah taxi 665003
Municipal water complaints 771258	
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)533060	

HOSPITALS	IBRD:
Russell Medical Centre 81381/32	Dr. Ahmad Benkawic 273925
Khalil Maternity, J. Amm 644281/6	Al Sharf pharmacy (-)
Al-Khalil Maternity, J. Amman 642412	Se'doun pharmacy (-)
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362	
Malhas, J. Amman 636140	ZARQA: Dr. Rabah Borini 985048
Palestine, Shamsi 664171/4	Jordan pharmacy 983124
Shamsi Hospital 669131	Al Tarzic (-)
University Hospital 845845/65	
Al-Muhsen Hospital 667227/9	Jordan Television 773111/19
Al-Jalila, Amman 666127/37	Radijo Jordan 774111/19
Al-Abil, Abidat 666164/6	Ministry of Tourism 664311
Indiana, Al-Muhajirun 777101/6	Hotel complaints 666412
Al-Bashir, J. Asmarieh 775111/26	Pedic complaints 661176
Army, Madia 891611/15	Telephone Information 12
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50	Jordan Middle East calls 10
Asal Hospital 674155	Overseas calls 17
	Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES	
Uppterrlow price in filn per kg.	
Apple (double red & starken)	200/150
Apple (golden)	270/230
Apple (green)	250/200
Apple (local)	270/230
Banana	300/260
Beans (Mukannmar)	250/220
Brood Beans (green)	500/440
Cabbage	850/800
Carrot (yellow)	200/170
Cauliflower	220/160
Cucumber	300/250
Dates	280/220
Eggplant (small)	280/220
Eggplant (large)	200/150
Garlic	800/750
Onions	300/250
Peas	200/150
Pepper (sweet)	200/150
Pepper (hot)	200/150
Potatoes	220/180
Sage	450/400
Spinach	340/300
Tomatoes	200/150
Watermelon	450/400

Princess Basma to visit societies in Irbid today

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma will visit Irbid Governorate today to inspect the Eidoun and Deir Yusef charitable societies and their activities. She will also visit the Yarmouk Centre for the handicapped which the QASWF established at the University of Science and Technology. Princess Basma will meet with university president Kamel Ajlouni and discuss the centre's work and programmes.

Princess Basma, president of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF) on Friday evening attended a charity function organised by the Jordan Society for the Care of the Deaf (JSCD).

The society's president Suheir Alaudin made a speech outlining

the activities and programmes of the society which, she said, cares for 70 handicapped and deaf children who are taught speech and writing and practise various educational and recreational activities. She also thanked Princess Basma for patronising the function and for her continued efforts in pursuit of promoting social and voluntary work in the Kingdom.

Among those attending the charity event were Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh, presidents of the voluntary and charitable societies and an audience of invited guests.

The JSCD was established in 1975 and offers health and social services to children. It also conducts tests on hearing and helps mute children to learn to speak.

Religious personality calls for closer Islamic-Christian coordination to save holy sites

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Kamel Al Sharif has called for stepped up Islamic-Christian coordination in Jordan as a step towards resolving the Jerusalem issue which he described as the symbol of the Palestine problem.

Mr. Sharif, who heads the executive committee of the General Islamic Congress for Bait Al Maqdis (Jerusalem) said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that he hopes such coordination would be expanded to cover the whole Arab nation.

Zionist propaganda has started to penetrate religious institutions in the West, and this places additional responsibilities on the

Arabs to confront the increasingly dangerous situation, Mr. Sharif said. This Zionist propaganda is clearly designed to win further western support for Israel's aggression on the Arabs, he added.

Mr. Sharif said that Muslim and Christian religious men could exercise an important and continuous role in thwarting Zionist objectives. He called for joint meetings and for more joint contacts with international religious conferences which convene periodically in Jerusalem in order to project Arab and Islamic views and to protect holy places from the malpractices of Zionist extremists.

RSCN in need of funds for environmental protection plan

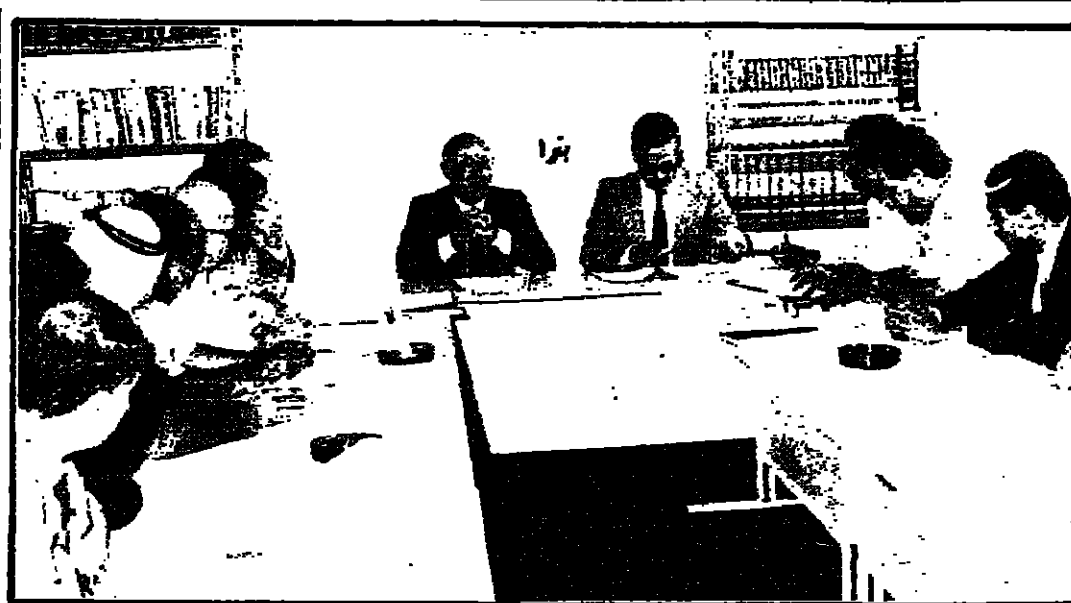
AMMAN (Petra) — The 1986/90 five-year plan of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) provides for working out a national strategy for environmental protection but the society lacks funds for financing the project, RSCN President Anis Muasher announced here on Saturday.

He said that the society also hopes to establish a pan-Arab agency which would dedicate its efforts to conserving the environment in the Arab World. The work and the activities of the RSCN are being supported and backed by public and private sectors in Jordan and Jordan is

now the only Arab member state in the International Council for the Conservation of Nature, Mr. Muasher continued.

Outlining society's current activities, Mr. Muasher said that plans are being made for the protection of agricultural land, water resources, the atmosphere and wild life.

In its drive to preserve Jordan's wealth of olive trees he said, the society this year undertook a project to help farmers gather the olive crop. Mr. Muasher explained that the society undertook this project in view of the fact that olive growers have been incurring 50 to 60 per cent extra costs.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Saturday meets with directors of social development departments to brief them on the national aid fund (Petra photo)

Haj Hassan appeals for contributions to aid fund

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan on Saturday issued an appeal to the Jordanian public and to the private sector in particular to extend financial help to the National Aid Fund which he said, has been established to help the needy people of Jordan.

Speaking at a meeting with directors of social development departments in various provinces of the Kingdom, the minister said that the national fund was set up to help all sectors of society in cities, villages and refugee camps so that all people can have a decent standard of living.

The minister requested directors of these departments to prepare lists of needy families in their regions and said that the Ministry of Social Development will be totally in charge of implementing the fund's programmes, distributing financial aid, in-kind assistance or running vocational training courses.

The fund at present has made allocations for distributing financial aid on a regular basis to 1,628 families whose members total 10,000 persons in addition to 40,000 other people who will receive in-kind assistance or vocational and rehabilitation training, the minister said. The minister requested the directors of his departments to conduct a social study on the condition of families which will be receiving aid and to provide information about others applying for assistance.

UNESCO, ministries begin workshop on educational aids

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week-long workshop to discuss the production and utilisation of educational aids in Jordan was opened here on Saturday by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

A total of 26 participants representing six ministries and other organisations will be evaluating and revising educational aids which the UNESCO regional office has gathered and modified prior to distributing them to schools in Jordan and other Arab countries, according to a Ministry of Education spokesman. He said that the workshop also aims at deepening the concept of using educational aids through demonstrations using video tapes and slides.

Addressing the opening ceremony was Ministry of Education Secretary General Ahmad Al Bashaieh who deputised for Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi. He said that these aids will help develop the process of education in Jordan and other Arab countries, particularly in rural regions.

Holding the workshop in Amman comes at a time when Jordan is embarking on a process of developing its programmes in rural regions in implementation of the provisions of its new five-year national plan, Dr. Bashaieh said. He expressed hope that the participants would come up with ideas and means to contribute towards the success of this programme.

Another speaker was Mr.

Ibrahim Musallam, assistant director of the curricula department at the Ministry of Education, who said that the workshop was designed to produce educational aids that could be used in rural development centres in Jordan and other parts of the Arab World. He paid tribute to UNESCO for its assistance.

Mr. Salah Ya'qoub, a UNESCO specialist in rural development, outlined the organisation's programmes in Arab countries and expressed hope that the participants would help promote the cause of rural development. He voiced appreciation to UNESCO for providing documentaries, videos and slides for the workshop.

According to the Ministry of Education, the participants will watch video documentaries that cover food production, child nutrition, health education, the importance of breast feeding, the health of pregnant women, the use of plastic sheets in agriculture, raising livestock, breeding bees, the role of agricultural extension, the application of manure on land, irrigation systems and family planning.

Delegates taking part in the workshop represent the Ministries of Education, Higher Education, Health, Agriculture, Information and Social Development as well as the University of Jordan, the Jordan Valley Authority, the Urban Development Department, the Jordan Valley Farmers Association, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the General Union of Voluntary Societies, the Vocational Training Corporation and the Jordan Society for Family Planning.

Authority takes steps to provide fresh water supplies, sewerage network for Zarqa region

ZARQA (J.T.) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) is undertaking a project to ensure supplies of fresh water to the Zarqa region before the coming Spring and the authority is currently drilling an artesian well for the sole benefit of Al Hashemieh town, close to Zarqa, WAJ Director General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani announced on Saturday.

He made the announcement at a meeting with heads of municipal councils in the Zarqa region. The meeting was called to discuss the water situation and sewerage projects in Zarqa Governorate.

Prior to 1985, Zarqa had been receiving water through the municipal system which drew water from four nearby artesian wells. However, residents complained that the municipal supply was saline and unfit for drinking. In autumn of 1985, the water network of the city was connected to supplies coming from Azraq oasis and mixing the water from the two sources drastically reduced the degree of salinity in the water.

But recently, the WAJ connected the Azraq water supplies to the Amman network, returning Zarqa to its former source of supply. Residents of

Zarqa had been lamenting about the high salinity of drinking water reaching them through the municipal system whilst regional boundaries put constraints on the municipal authorities' options for alternative sources to the local wells.

Referring to the sewerage project in Zarqa Mr. Keilani said that 466 homes have already been connected to the network but he assured that work would be speeded up and that at least 3,000 homes in Zarqa and Ruseifa will be connected to the sewerage network each month.

Mr. Keilani said that the Ministries of Agriculture and Public Works, together with local cooperative societies, will cooperate with the WAJ in planting fruit trees and fodder

crops around the Khirbet Al Samra wastewater treatment plant which handles wastewater from the sewers of Amman and Zarqa.

Also addressing the meeting was Mohammad Daba'i, acting governor of Zarqa, who presented the governorate's problems and residents' complaints about the on-going digging of water and sewerage networks in the cities of Zarqa and Ruseifa. The acting governor said that dikes have to be built to drain away rain water in the coming winter season, and make it easier for pedestrians and vehicles to use the streets.

Mr. Daba'i pointed out the failure of certain contractors to complete parts of the project and said that some contractors have started digging operations in new regions leaving behind unfinished tasks in other streets.

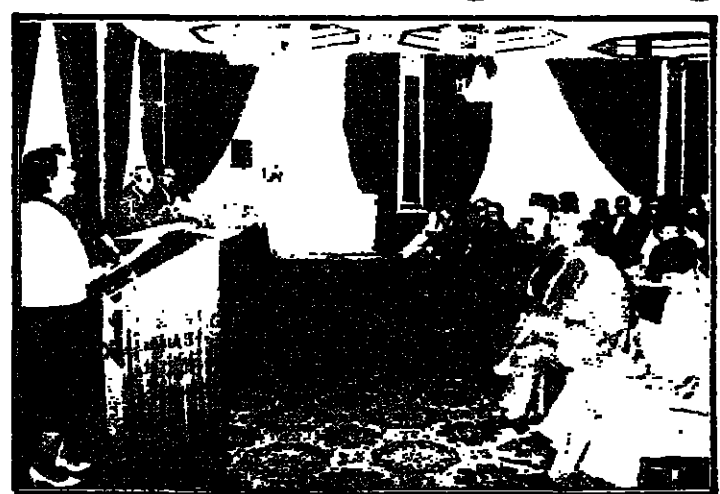
After the meeting, Mr. Keilani and Mr. Daba'i made a tour of the Zarqa region and inspected digging operations for laying water and sewerage networks. They also visited a station for pumping wastewater from Zarqa and Ruseifa to Khirbet Al Samra. The station, built at a cost of JD 1.3 million, pumps an average of 14,000 cubic metres of wastewater daily.

Ministry plans to expand primary health services, Hamzeh tells gathering

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry will pursue its efforts to expand the scope of health education and health awareness among members of the public by opening more health centres and training manpower involved in this endeavour, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said here on Saturday.

Addressing the opening session of a two-day meeting dedicated to the promotion of health education, Dr. Hamzeh said that the ministry is currently running 180 health centres in the Kingdom. Through these centres and hospitals, the ministry is currently providing primary health care to 75 per cent of the Jordanian population but it aims at meeting a target set by World Health Organisation (WHO) to provide this care to all members of society by the year 2000, the minister said. Primary health care, Dr. Hamzeh explained, means helping people to care for their own health at home and also taking part in health projects benefiting their own community.

The Health Ministry continues to organise training courses for its doctors, nurses and midwives and other personnel to enable them to improve their skills and provide better services, Dr. Hamzeh added.



Specialists in primary health care and health education attend the opening session of a meeting on promoting public health awareness (Petra photo)

Also addressing the meeting was Dr. Suleiman Qubain who heads the ministry's primary health care department. He said that for primary care programmes to succeed, they require sound planning from the Health Ministry, the involvement of health departments in all the provinces and the participation of the general public in health care affairs.

Altogether, 30 physicians from the private and public sectors are

attending the meeting which will address such subjects as raising the level of health education through supporting the work of health centres and involving the public in health care projects.

The participants will also discuss the objectives of health campaigns and their benefits for public health, the role of doctors in preventive medicine and means of spreading health education programmes in various regions of the country.

Prince Hassan opens Arab-Sino dialogue

(Continued from page 1)

"We should not become a dumping ground for the extended and exhausted technologies of others," the Prince said.

While urging for cooperation with China, the Crown Prince said, "we are aware of the multitude of complexities existing between China and the region."

"By the year 2000 we should work towards the sharing of vision and commitment," he said. "It should be a contract of generations."

He remarked that the "rational flexibility that characterises the Chinese approach to development" differed from the American pragmatic flexibility. He said he believed in China's economic strategy where people, above all other considerations, matter the most.

Referring to China's role in the region, the Prince said that China could contribute to bringing peace to the war-torn Middle East and that Peking's decision to interact in the world community strengthened countries of the south.

The Crown Prince praised China's approach to investment and development saying that it differed from the "swift profit" attitude adopted by other countries. He said the Chinese approach was based on longer-term investment. He praised the "Chinese quality of patience and longer-term perception of human relations."

Addressing the Chinese delegates to the conference, the Crown Prince said that Jordan was conscious of its economic shortcomings and that while the Kingdom tries to rise above its weaknesses, "we are also conscious that the economic gravity centre is shifting towards the Pacific basin."

He told the conference that the aim of the Arab-Sino dialogue was to promote and stimulate like-mindedness between countries in the context of the South-South dialogue. He said that South West Asia and North East Asia were at the two ends of the pole.

"We should have given more emphasis on developing like-mindedness," he said pointing

out that the criterion the Arab World shares with China was substantially different in the approach and that the South-South dialogue is almost deadlocked.

He said that in the process of exploring ways for cooperation, "the temptation to be factual runs into confrontation with the North South dialogue because it is based more on perceptions of reality rather than the truth of the reality."

Prince Hassan warned that superpowers were charting a course that was bound to lead to a head-on collision of world powers. He was speaking in the context of the failure of the superpower summit at Reykjavik, Iceland, following disagreement on arms control and future development of strategic nuclear weapons.

"While we in the South are trying to improve the quality of life for our people and working to bridge the gap for them, they (superpowers) are playing a dangerous game" that could have a destructive outcome, he said.

"We speak of interdependence when in reality so many of us — the smaller countries, are tied by a multitude of economic considerations imposed by superpower initiatives."

The Crown Prince said trade relations had reached the point where southern interdependence was challenged by the big nations.

Citing an example, Prince Hassan said that last year, India produced 600,000 tonnes of wheat that was mainly purchased by the United States. He said that in the same year, Jordan offered Pakistan phosphates at the rate of \$175 per tonne, but the U.S. offered its phosphates at \$140 per tonne, thus getting the Pakistani deal. He was referring to obstacles to the South-South dialogue imposed by developing countries.

In reply to the Prince's speech, Professor Huan Xiang, head of the Chinese delegation at the conference, said the Middle East "occupies an important position in the world and that any change in the region will inevitably have an impact on the situation in the entire world."

"The Arab Nation is now at the forefront of the struggle for the preservation of world peace and

justice," Dr. Xiang said. He added that China "firmly supports the Arab people in their struggle."

He said the world was facing technological and economic challenges that should prompt cooperation between China and the Arab World.

"Being developing countries, China and the Arab states should try even harder to catch up, and they are in fact exploring, formulating and executing development strategies that conform with the practical conditions of their countries. In this respect, we have many experiences to share with each other," Prof. Xiang said.

Referring to Chinese-Arab economic ties, he said they were growing stronger but that "there are still enormous potential for them to further expand."

In a concluding note Dr. Xiang said: "As inter-state relations are growing closer and many new complex problems are springing up, all countries have to proceed from the present-day reality while at the same time having their eyes on the challenges of the future. We need to discuss all these problems, exhaust various possibilities and find best options."

In discussions that followed a presentation on the Chinese view of the Arab World by Mrs. Lu Haicheng of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a paper by Dr. Hisham Ju'ait, the Crown Prince commented on issues that were raised on China's support of an international Middle East peace conference and Peking's relations with countries in the region.

Prince Hassan said Jordan insisted that resolutions by an international conference should be binding on all participants in that conference. "Israel and the United States should have no option" but to comply with these resolutions, he said.

He said that there was an opportunity for "a simultaneous recognition between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel" that would provide for a peaceful coexistence between the two peoples.

Referring to a statement to the effect that China "deals with the Arab World as a unit," Prince

Hassan said that for a long time, "Arab countries were studied by Oriental states as an extension of colonial powers" that colonised Arab countries.

Commenting on references by participants to Sino-Israeli contacts, Prince Hassan said: "Arab-Israeli contacts are not absent from the equation and, consequently, I don't see a reason for the continuous exchange of provocative statements" (between conferees).

The Prince said that Israel could be viewed and dealt with by any country as both a nation state as well as an extension of a technological strategic power in the context of East-West relations.

He said that Israel was seen as a country that "poses a regional counterweight to Soviet influence," in the region.

"This counterweight is resulting in an increased American influence that impedes Arab stability and normal development," he added.

Referring to the proposed international peace conference, the Prince said that China, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, was capable of playing an important role that would enhance its position supporting the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq war, the Crown Prince said that countries in the region as well as in South East Asia would benefit from reaching an end to the Gulf war.

In her presentation, Mrs. Lu said that China had always supported Arab causes and provided Palestinians with moral and material support. She said China had always condemned the Israeli authorities' brutal acts of encroaching on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Arab countries in defiance of the norms of international law.

"In my opinion," Mrs. Lu said, "the barbarous slaughter by the fascists and persecution suffered by the Jewish people in history deserve deep sympathy. Today, the Jewish people are also the direct victims of the Israeli authorities' policies of aggression."

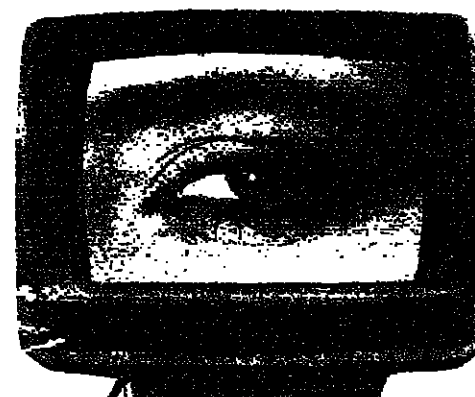
BLINK-OF-THE-EYE SPEED. THAT'S HOW CITIBANK'S GLOBAL ELECTRONIC BANKING WORKS FOR YOU.

What does it mean? It means that in seconds your account statement is in front of you — whenever and however often you want it.

Speed and consistency are important features of Citibank's advanced Global Electronic Banking system.

A system whose cost-effectiveness has led companies worldwide to adopt it in ever growing numbers.

This terminal, installed by Citibank in your office, provides you with direct access to Citibank's branches worldwide.



For more information and a live demonstration, please contact or visit us at your convenience.

The City of Tomorrow
CITIBANK
PO BOX 3005 AMMAN, JORDAN
TEL: 524241, 525 64722, 644065 (6 lines)
TELE FAX 21324 CITI JJO

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الجزيرة الأردنية السياسية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من قبل المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. تأسست 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Economic recovery — a lesson from Singapore

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE strong resemblance between Jordan and Singapore enables us to learn from the rich experience of this young, modern state. We have talked before about the possible "Singaporisation" of the Jordanian economy when Singapore was progressing rapidly. However, that country has been facing multiple problems, including economic dilemmas. It is time now to look into their plan to tackle economic recession which took place in the island a couple of years ago.

Among the similarities between Jordan and Singapore are: Small size, equal number of population (2.7 million), rapid economic growth during the last two decades (8.5 per cent a year), the absence of unemployment during the prosperous period, the rise in wages faster than the improvement of productivity, the strength of the domestic currency against all currencies in the region, the total dependence on imported energy, the stress on education and training to upgrade the standard of the labour force, and finally, the rise in the cost of production which retarded the competitiveness in export markets.

However, there are other aspects which still make Jordanian economy differ from that of Singapore. For instance, the latter had a low or non-existent indebtedness, huge foreign investment, low domestic inflation (below 5 per cent), very high local savings (over 40 per cent of GDP), and a surplus in the budget of the central

government.

In 1985, Singapore's economic growth had a setback. A 1.8 per cent negative growth was experienced, investments dropped suddenly by 13 per cent, and the government budget reflected for the first time a deficit of 0.7 per cent compared to a surplus of five per cent in 1984.

When all this happened, the government of Singapore did not waste time in denying that any problem existed. It went into concealing a dip into borrowing to make up for the shortage. It appointed an economic committee to evaluate the situation and came up with a programme of policies and measures to induce economic growth at lower but sustainable pace.

The economic committee recently published its recommendations, and the government approved the programme and put those recommendations into immediate effect. Observers expect 1986/1987 to be a year for a turn around in Singaporean economy and a time for the resumption of sustainable growth.

The salient points in the Singaporean economic programme are the following:

1. The reduction in employers' excessive contribution towards social security. This measure is meant to create savings in the production sectors which would encourage more employment.

2. The freezing of salaries and wages for two years. After this interim period, wage increases will not be allowed except within the annual rate of labour productivity improvement.

3. The reduction of corporate tax rate from 40 to 33 per cent, and the slashing of real estate taxes by half, over and above individual's income tax cut by 25 per cent.

4. The close examination of new opportunities as they arise, to establish new feasible investments. Such investments will be left to the private sector's initiative to finance, manage, and reap the benefits.

5. The transformation of Singapore into an international total-business centre, qualified and equipped to serve the whole region. Singapore is to strive to attract foreign companies to establish their regional offices in Singapore.

6. The introduction of more incentives, and the extension of moderate protection, provided it is applicable at a unified rate for all commodities, activities, and sectors, in order to avoid misallocation of resources.

The Singaporean experiment with economic slow-down and recovery is not presented here to be copied blindly. There is nevertheless a lot that a country like Jordan can learn from the experience of other developing countries, especially those blessed with efficient regimes like Singapore.

Message in escalation

LAST Wednesday's grenade attack against Israeli soldiers in Jerusalem and the subsequent downing of an Israeli jet fighter near the port of Sidon by a Palestinian SAM-7 missile are yet additional reminders that the Palestinian factor has to be reckoned with in efforts to bring the Palestinian case to a successful resolution. It is clear now that the Palestinian military escalation inside of Israel and outside it is tantamount to a message to the world that the Palestinians may not be by-passed in any effort for peace. It is also a reaction to the general feeling of frustration by the Palestinian party in the Middle East equation that the peace process is moving painfully slowly, if at all.

No-one likes bloodshed especially if innocent people are victimised and killed in the process. But it is fair to say that in order to put an end to the cycle of bloodshed, whether on the Arab or Israeli side, more concerted and effective methods must be resorted to with a view to stepping up peace efforts in a coherent way which all concerned can understand and delineate. All cards must be put on the table in the clearest possible manner so as to gauge better public reaction and support. In the final analysis, it is the peoples concerned who are going to be the beneficiaries or victims of any peace formula which is submitted for consideration, approval and eventual implementation.

It may not be a coincidence that the recent escalation in attacks and counter-attacks came on the eve of the change-over of government positions between Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir. For we all know that the new Israeli prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, is even more negative about Palestinian national rights than his predecessor Shimon Peres had ever been. Shamir is also totally opposed to Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories and regards the Palestinian element as dispensable to the peace process. This is what the Palestinians appear to be mostly fighting against now. They need acceptance and recognition, and unless the new government in Israel is willing to consider their basic rights they would have no alternative but to be steadfast and fight back.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli state terrorism

LEBANON has lodged a complaint with the United Nations Security Council about Israel's recent raid near the southern city of Sidon which killed women and children and left a trail of destruction in civilian areas. Lebanon took this move because the raid was on its territory, regardless of who lives on that territory, Palestinians, Lebanese or otherwise, and this is a legitimate practice. But the Israelis now say that the raids were directed against certain areas which generate attacks on Israel and they are trying to convince the world that the killing of women and children and the acts of terrorism in Lebanon were justified. At the same time, Israel has demanded that Lebanon guarantee the safety of the Israeli pilot who was captured in the recent raid, and to hand him back to the Israeli authorities. The Israelis had thought that their terrorist operations would go without punishment and that the Lebanese people and the international community would condone the raids on civilian targets and on refugee camps. The Israelis had introduced organised terrorism to the Middle East and they are now practising it on a large scale, employing war planes and all sorts of weapons to kill the civilian population in Lebanon. The captured pilot is not to be regarded as a prisoner of war in accordance with international law but a terrorist and a killer who should be dealt with accordingly, and the raid on Lebanon is an act of aggression which should be condemned by the international community.

Al Dustour: Two of a kind

YITZHAK Shamir takes over as prime minister of Israel at a time when the Israeli war machine is escalating its aggression on Arab countries. His advent ushers in fresh Israeli moves towards further intransigence with regard to the peace initiatives in the Middle East. We believe that the handover to a new man at the head of government will not bring about any real change in Israel's policies towards the Arabs or the occupied territory, except that Shamir's government will be more aggressive than the previous one. Shamir will act in accordance with Zionist policies, but he lacks the political tactics with which his predecessor Shimon Peres had concealed his wickedness for two years during which he was deceiving the world about his intentions which he claimed are directed towards the achievement of peace. The two men cannot but implement a Zionist plan in the Arab region, consolidating their hold over Arab territory and pursuing the goal of expansionism and aggression. In fact, Shamir and Peres are two faces of the same coin; and are two important tools in the hands of the world Zionist movement which steers one at each time to serve its own purpose. The most important thing one has to remember, however, is that Shamir is bound to be more aggressive and more open in his rejection of the peace initiatives.

Sawt Al Shaab: Gulf war escalation

THE Iranian regime seems to be escalating its aggression on civilian targets in Iraq because of the ignominious defeat and the setbacks it has suffered in the battlefield. This escalation is being made at a time when the Arab countries and the international community at large are intensifying their efforts to end Iranian acts of aggression and bring about peace to the Gulf region. The Iranians have fired long-range missiles on civilian targets in Baghdad, killing and wounding many civilians, mostly women and children, and destroying religious places and educational and health centres set up to serve the Iranian people. Iran continues its daily bombardment of civilian targets in Basra and other areas along the frontier, regardless of world condemnation and in violation of international principles and laws. This escalation of aggression on civilian areas reflects Iran's malicious intentions towards the Arabs in general and the Iraqi people in particular. The Iranian regime is not respecting the religious ties that link the Arab and Iranian people, nor is it interested in what the world thinks about such raids. This is a total and flagrant defiance of all norms and international principles, and a violation of all laws that govern the international community. This also clearly reflects Iran's lust for expansionism and the pursuit of

Iceland gloom breaks as Reagan optimism surfaces

By Rodney Pinder

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Like the rapidly-changing moods of Icelandic weather, light has replaced gloom in the U.S. view of the weekend superpower summit.

A couple of good nights' sleep at home after the gruelling negotiations on the edge of the Arctic Circle clearly perked up the American team, awakening them to new openings in what Secretary of State George Shultz called "the highest stakes poker game ever played."

But the Americans also have been buoyed by the irrepressible nature of President Reagan, whose temper seems to have turned from anger and frustration Sunday night to easy optimism now.

"This man is the world's greatest optimist. For him the glass is always half full, never half empty," said Reagan's biographer Lou Cannon, who covers the White House for the Washington Post and has followed Reagan for 20 years.

When the Reykjavik meeting between Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev collapsed after showing promise of sweeping accords to slash nuclear arms, U.S. officials looked devastated.

As the Icelandic night fell over Holfi house, a government lodge where 11 hours of grinding negotiations had taken place, the superpower future looked ominously dark.

The New York Times, in a report that has not been denied, said Reagan was cursing to his chief of staff, Donald Regan, as they drove off after failing to shift Gorbachev from his dogged antipathy to the president's plan for "Star Wars" space defences against nuclear weapons.

One aide described Reagan's mood to the newspaper as "controlled anger," and another said, "the president had a look on him that I have never seen."

To many observers Reagan, the oldest president in American history, looked all of his 75 years that night — weary, drawn, tight-lipped.

Shultz looked sombre and exhausted and there was a catch in his voice when he told a news conference of his "deep disappointment" at the result of the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting.

Regan snapped the Soviets had been "shown up for what they are" and there would be no new summit that he could see.

But all indications are that the president has decided to regard Iceland only as a temporary setback.

By the time he had driven to meet American servicemen and their families at Keflavik NATO base 30 miles from Reykjavik, Reagan already was saying the talks represented progress.

When he addressed an anxious nation on television on Monday night he still looked weary and jet-lagged. But he said that despite the setback in Iceland the superpowers were closer than ever before to momentous arms reductions.

By the time Reagan met administration arms control experts in the White House on Tuesday evening, he was bouncy. Recalling his days as a labour union negotiator with tough Hollywood film producers in the 1940s, he said:

"I'm used to seeing one side or another walk out of talks. It didn't mean that relations had collapsed or that we had reached an insurmountable impasse. Sometimes a little manoeuvring was going on."

Shultz's demeanor also had turned from frown to smile. He said he had been encouraged by support from NATO allies who were astonished at the progress made.

value of his cherished Star Wars programme when set against the massive nuclear arms cuts apparently within reach in Iceland.

Officials were aware of public opinion polls consistently showing the American people like a president who is tough with the Soviets, but who also can deal with them.

Voters got skittish at the start of Reagan's presidency when he called the Soviet Union an evil empire and no talking was taking place.

Helmut Sonnenfeldt, a member of President Richard Nixon's White House staff, said the Reagan administration drew up a game plan when the relatively youthful and energetic Gorbachev took over the Kremlin helm in 1985.

Officials believed the new man would blitz them with a series of concessions tied to a halt in Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), as Star Wars is formally called.

"I think on reflection they probably feel they have Gorbachev in a position where he cannot afford to be openly hostile to the United States and must continue a dialogue and may be forced to cash in on the promissory notes he handed over in Iceland," Sonnenfeldt said.

Bruce Weinrod, foreign policy director with the conservative Heritage Foundation, said he believed Reagan had decided to proceed with the Soviet Union as he does a recalcitrant Congress, by "continuing to go back and go back again."

He may also try to turn up the pressure on Gorbachev by deploying an embryonic anti-missile system in three to five years and by carrying out his threat to abandon arms limits imposed by the 1979 SALT-2 strategic arms treaty, he said.

For the moment, Reagan seems undisturbed that he may be seen as inflexible and intransigent in the post-Iceland storm.

Asked on Wednesday if Gorbachev was beating him in the world propaganda war, he retorted, "He's trying propaganda. I'm telling the truth."

By Juan Maltes
The Associated Press

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — The capture of an American flying supplies to contra guerrillas in Nicaragua revived the debate over the presence of the U.S.-backed rebels in neighbouring Honduras.

Just as in El Salvador, where the contras use Ilopango military base, the presence of the Nicaraguan rebels is something the Honduran government would rather not discuss.

American Eugene Hasenfus said he participated in 10 supply runs to the contras. Four, he said, left from Aguacate air base in Honduras and the other six from Ilopango. Aguacate is near Catacamas, about 70 miles east of the capital of Tegucigalpa.

Hasenfus spoke at a news conference organised by the leftist Sandinista government last week in Managua, Nicaragua's capital.

Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo immediately denied that his government lets clandestine flights use his country's territory. Major Jorge Alberto Arguello, the armed forces' spokesman, did the same.

But the leader of the national assembly, Carlos Montoya, of the ruling Liberal Party, said the time has come for the contras to leave Honduras.

In addition to the clandestine flights believed to be concentrated at Aguacate, the contras have maintained bases in southern



Seoul political climate sours after Asiad

By Roger Crabb

Reuter

SEOUL — As many commentators feared, it was the calm before the storm. Less than two weeks after the Seoul Asian Games ended in apparent national harmony, South Korea has plunged back into a full-scale political crisis.

Seeking to prosecute an opposition deputy for an allegedly pro-Communist speech, the government sent more than 1,000 police into the National Assembly on Thursday night to ensure a vote lifting his immunity. To both foreign and domestic analysts, the move signals a return to spring's explosive political face-off.

At that crucial point, with opposition leaders confronting riot police in the streets, President Chun Doo Hwan took the initiative to reduce tensions. He offered talks in parliament on a new electoral system to replace the disputed indirect poll enshrined in his 1980 constitution.

Chun's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) and the main opposition grouping, the New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), subsequently held more than two months of talks in the National Assembly.

Last month, as the Asian Games approached, the two sides were still poles apart on a new national charter. The NKDP wanted direct elections to choose

a president as successor to the powerful Chun, who is due to stand down in 1988, while the DJP insisted on a parliamentary system with a strong prime minister ruling through a cabinet.

A tacit truce was concluded for the duration of the sports festival but the tensions remained. Amidst the games euphoria — South Korea won 93 gold medals, only one short of China, to the jubilation of the entire population — political cassandras voiced warnings of imminent crisis if the two parties could not reach some sort of compromise once normal business resumed.

The U.S. ambassador in Seoul, Richard Walker, said failure to establish a widely-accepted government in 1988 could set South Korean democracy back 20 years. He said many diplomats feared failure could mean a return to martial law or even another military coup.

Walker's opposite number in Washington meanwhile said publicly that South Korea stood at a crossroads, and all depended on what course it took between now and 1988.

Ambassador Kim Kyung-Won told U.S. academics that domestic or external instability could force the government to take "firmer measures" against dissenters.

These sombre diplomatic warnings were echoed in Seoul newspaper editorials, which spoke of looming "catastrophe," "disaster" and "doom." The

Chosun Ilbo commented: "The ruling and opposition camps are like two trains dashing towards a head-on collision."

Last week, after the games ended, the NKDP came up with a proposal to break the deadlock within the constitutional reform committee: A national referendum to decide which of the two electoral systems appealed to the people.

Leading dissident Kim Young-Sam, an NKDP leader, called it a way of showing people at home and abroad that the opposition was not proposing violent change but offering the voters a choice.

Chun's party, after a muted initial response, formally rejected the idea last Friday. DJP chairman Roh Tae-Woo told the National Assembly the NKDP's call for a referendum was a plot to destroy the constitution and take power "by extra-parliamentary means."

Tensions rose higher on Tuesday when NKDP assemblyman Yoo Sung-Hwan made a parliamentary speech in which, official media say, he called on the government to favour national reunification rather than anti-Communism — the basic tenet of the Republic of (South) Korea.

No full text of that speech has reached foreign reporters, and Yoo rejects the interpretation put on his words by state prosecutors.

The government decided Yoo was in breach of the national security law, which bans all activities favouring Communist North Korea.

Prosecutors argued that Yoo circulated copies of his speech to reporters, and therefore could not invoke the immunity from prosecution which speeches to the assembly have under the constitution.

The ruling party attempted to use its majority in the 276-seat assembly to vote a lifting of Yoo's immunity. This led NKDP deputies to occupy the speaker's podium on Thursday and delay the start of the session by more than eight hours.

It took the police intervention to seal off a room where the DJP majority could unilaterally approve the government's call for Yoo's formal arrest.

The NKDP on Friday expressed "indescribable anger and grief at the demise of parliamentary politics" in South Korea and vowed to strike a severe blow at what it called Chun's undesirable regime.

A DJP spokesman played down fears of a crisis. "I know about rumours of a (government) crackdown, that Yoo's arrest was the first step, but it's not true," Hyun Hong-Choo told reporters.

Hyun ruled out any prospect of the government imposing martial law, saying police were capable of dealing with any disorders.

Hasenfus' capture highlights Honduran role in contra support

border since the start of their war against the Sandinista government more than four years ago.

"We do not agree with the policy or ideology of the Sandinista government, but as soon as they (the contras) leave Honduras, the better for us," Montoya said the day after the C-123 transport plane carrying Hasenfus was shot down in southern Nicaragua.

Manuel Zelaya, a congressman from rural Olancho province where the air base is located, called for the government to expel all contras from Honduras.

"There are 35,000 Honduran citizens living in fear because of the contras stationed in Catacamas and El Aguacate," Zelaya said in a speech this week.

"Nicaragua's problems must be solved by Nicaragua, but in Nicaragua territory and not in Honduras," he said. "They must leave our country now... with the contras' presence in Honduras, our society is now divided."

Honduran military sources say about 18,000 contra rebels operate from their bases on Honduran territory.

"Honduras is no longer a sovereign country," said an editorial in the newspaper Tiempo. "There is no doubt that our national sovereignty has been violated..."

But the monetary benefits to Honduras since the start of the contra insurgency have been clear. U.S. economic aid for the 1987

million, compared to \$32.7 million in 1981, the year before the contras began their war. Military aid planned for 1987 amounted to \$88.8 million, compared to \$8.9 million in 1981.

Tiempo also complained about "the arrogant mood of the contras who own a zone of 250 square miles of our country in the province of El Paraiso." Access to El Paraiso, where the bases are concentrated, is usually blocked by the Honduran military.

The contras have been saying for some time that they want to move their operations back into Nicaragua.

Enrique Bermudez, military chief of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the largest contra group, said those aboard the shot-down C-123 were working as volunteers for the rebels. U.S. government officials have denied any government involvement in the flights.

Hasenfus, 45, was the only survivor. Three others were killed. "We considered them heroes because they fought for freedom," Bermudez said, from FDN offices in Tegucigalpa.

Bermudez said the FDN will leave Honduras when it gets the \$100 million in military and economic aid approved by the U.S. Congress.

"For the peace of the Honduran people, we will leave Honduras," he said. "All our forces and combatants will move into Nicaragua between March and April 1987. In April, our forces



50 من لاهل

After turbulent start, Potash Company heads for recovery

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Potash Company (APC) says it is determined to ease its heavy financial burdens and pass the survival test as one of the Kingdom's largest industries after suffering losses in the past years.

Furthermore, the company also is considering major expansion plans.

According to Ali Ensour, APC's managing director, the company has a massive expansion programme inspired by a determination to expand Jordan's share in the world potash market. Mr. Ensour believes that with the expansion programme, the company will be able to reach the break-even point in 1987 and cover its accumulated losses — currently estimated at JD 30.8 million — by 1991.

The four main reasons behind the company's losses are a one-year delay in commissioning of the company's project; low production in the first few years; a sharp decline in world potash prices; and the regression in the dollar's value.

The potash plant started production in 1983 and in the first year produced only 23 per cent of its design capacity. In 1984, production was 41 per cent of design, while 76 per cent was reached in 1985.

In the current year, the plant is expected to attain a higher production level of 87.5 per cent of design capacity which is 1.2 million tonnes per year, according to Mr. Ensour.

In the first year of production, there was a sharp decline in potash prices. The price fell by 31 per cent from the 1980 price of \$105 per tonne to \$72 in 1983.

Also due to the low production level in the initial years of operation, caused by a one year delay in the construction of the plant, and a sharp decline in prices, and due to the high burden of fixed costs, the company incurred a loss of JD 13.84 million in 1983. In the second year of operation, the company suffered a loss of JD 9.72 million and in 1985, the loss was JD 6.52 million, raising the total accumulated loss to JD 30.8 million since the company's inception.

During the three years, the company provided JD 21.68 million for depreciation and amortisation, in the form of a non-cash cost, and JD 23.35 million as interest on loans.

However, the sharp decline in international potash prices has been the major reason behind the company's losses: In 1983, 1984 and 1985, the actual price of potash per tonne was \$72, \$82 and \$81, compared to projected prices of \$105, \$119 and \$134 FOB Aqaba respectively.

For the company, the break-even point is always determined by potash prices.

To compound the APC's problems, in 1986, the U.S. dollar-dinar exchange rate is expected to reduce the company's

income on sales by 12-13 per cent compared to 1985.

Mr. Ensour, said the company expected a levelling-off of prices until the end of 1987, when demand is expected to pick up while supply remains almost constant and causes slow price increases up to levels of between \$90-\$95 around 1990-1991.

These estimates, explained Mr. Ensour, who took over as APC managing director in April 1984, are based on figures of supply and demand which may change either way due to unforeseen economic or political factors in key potash consuming areas around the globe.

The other price depressing factor is the current slump in international commodity prices in general and food prices in particular.

This trend is expected to continue at least until new demand is created in less developed regions and production is trimmed in the U.S. and Europe.

Despite all existing constraints, the company appears determined to expand its market share: the APC has plans to modify the potash refinery to bring it up to design capacity (1.2 million tons a year) and to optimise its production to 16.6 per cent over design capacity (1.4 million tonnes). The present production rate is 1,050,000 tonnes a year.

The contract for the first phase of modification and optimisation is about to be awarded, according to Mr. Ensour.

The second phase is concerned with downstream industries: The company is preparing specifications for tendering within two to three months. Both expansion phases are expected to be finalised in 15 to 18 months at the cost of \$25 million. The World Bank is lending the company \$13 million and the Islamic Development Bank is putting \$8 million. The rest is provided by the company itself. This second phase of expansion means going from a production level of 1.4 million tonnes to two million tonnes.

Mr. Ensour, who served as director general of the Jordan Electricity Authority between 1968 and 1978, said the company was studying the possibility of utilising the process of "cold crystallisation." He said the technology has been proven good and is being used at the Dead Sea (by the Israelis).

The company will first build a pilot plant including a refinery and carry out laboratory tests on the crystallisation process. The \$1.5 million plant will be financed by a grant from USAID. After the tests the company will build the industrial plant and the solar system. This would cost \$100 million (to be built over 5 years) bringing the production capacity to 2 million tonnes and would require full economic and technical feasibility studies.

The third project, aimed at the diversification of the plant's products, is known as downstream industries, such as the extraction of Potassium Sulphate (a fertiliser,



Ali Ensour
K2504. Bromin (medical). Magnesium Oxide (for building material), Soda Ash (for glass) and MPK (fertiliser).

Mr. Ensour, who was also Minister of Industry and Trade in 79-80, and later held the post of managing director of the Jordan Mining Phosphate company (JPMC) between 80 and 83, said the APC has already made studies for these projects, but that these studies need to be updated.

Part of the funds for financing these projects has been allocated within the country's five-year development plan. Each of the extraction plants is expected to cost around JD 50 million.

"Our plan is to utilise the potash operation as a 'cornerstone' from which Jordan can realise the maximum benefit for economic exploitation of the Dead Sea mineral reserves," Mr. Ensour said.

The project was conceived on the basis of certain natural advantages such as the large potash reserve in the Dead Sea estimated at 2 billion tonnes (KCL) with nearly 800 million tonnes recoverable by existing processing methods.

Mr. Ensour believes that unlike the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company (JFIC), the APC will succeed in its survival test.

Faced by the company's accumulated losses of nearly JD 40 million, the government has had no alternative but to accept an offer by the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) earlier this year to take over the fertiliser company's assets for the lump sum of JD 60 million. The project, which cost \$400 million failed to live up to expectations due to heavy financial burdens, caused among other things, by the collapse of fertiliser prices and technical problems.

Economists believe that due to over-enthusiasm by various bureaucrats, the original feasibility studies hardly measured up to the realities of today's market.

However, determined to pursue an aggressive, but scientific approach, APC's marketing policy is bent on optimising the company's cash return from high price markets and on disposing of the company's production in a manner which does not upset the delicate supply/demand balance.

"Our inception into the world trading scene has been a gentle, mostly welcomed arrival," Mr. Ensour said in a recent interview.

"We strongly believe in a long-term policy and in establishing powerful customer loyalties and relations."

The company has confidence in Jordan's geographical advantage over Canadian and European competition in Asia, Africa, and the Mediterranean. This advantage is being fully utilised by employing high standards of shipping services available at Aqaba port.

According to APC, the company consistently tries to cash in on Jordan's trade imbalance with other countries by redressing the balance in potash through coordination and cooperation with the respective government agencies and sister Jordanian companies. Jordan's share of the world market in 1985 was about 6.5 per cent of world trade (excluding internal deliveries and excluding markets such as inter-socialist bloc and U.S.).

One of the company's main worries have been competition with Canadian soft loans extended to customers, and asserting APC's long-term commitments.

Commenting on the high cost of the potash project, Mr. Ensour said the project was a high capital investment due largely to the infrastructure necessary to develop the plant's area. "This work is now complete and with the operation at a positive cash flow level, loan repayments can be made and profitability enhanced in future years."

The company's marketing policies are always discussed within the three fertilisers companies administrations and homogenised in order to present the Jordanian product as a package.

The company, according to Mr. Ensour, is currently at a good selling streak. "We are selling more than we are able to produce," he said, pointing out that last year, 908,000 tonnes were produced and 932,000 sold. "We hardly have any inventory stored because we are selling all." Inventory is usually 10 per cent of production stored.

The company recently signed an agreement with India for the export of 400,000 tonnes which is one third of Jordan's production. So far, India bought 360,000 this year. Next year the amount will be 450,000, then 500,000 in 1988, according to the agreement.

Among Jordan's customers are China, South Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Italy, Brazil, France. So far this year, the company has exported 650,000 tonnes out of 675,000 produced.

According to market analysts, with some 40 per cent of its output going to the Indian subcontinent, at relatively good prices, and an ongoing marketing arrangement with the French potash group, APC can afford to adopt a lower profile in world markets and avoid some of the more depressed areas.

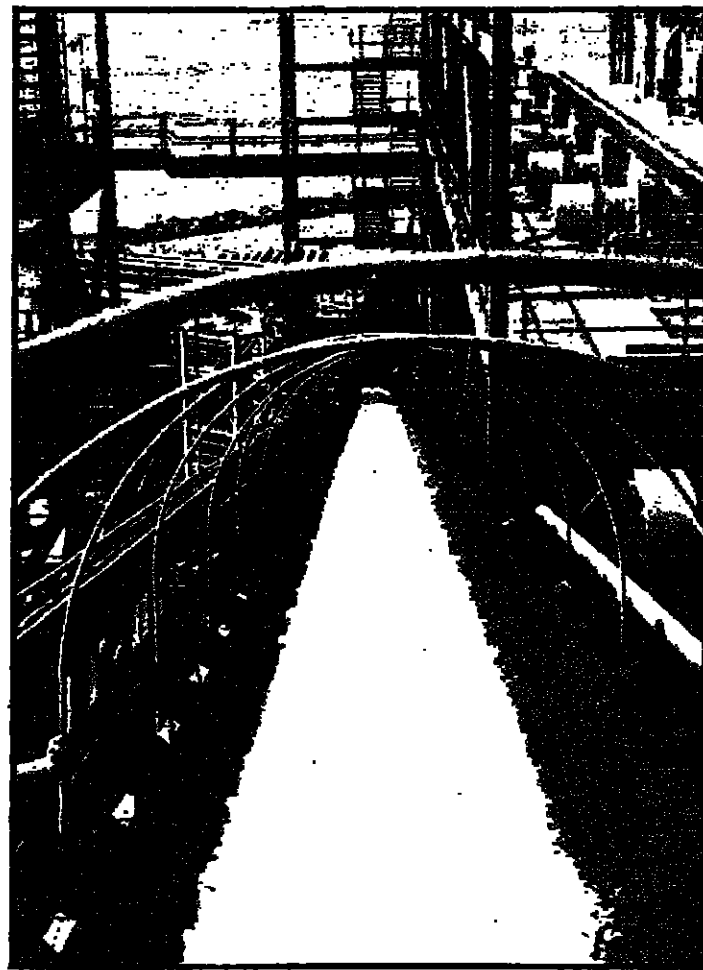
From among other suppliers, the APC is facing competition from the Israeli plant which has plans to increase production from 2.1 million to 2.75 million tonnes a year. As part of a 10-year, \$425 million capital-spending programme, Israel's Dead Sea Works (DSW), this year, is pending approval by parent company Israel chemicals, to build pilot plants for potassium sulphate and potassium nitrate, with the prospect of building commercialised units of 150 to 200 thousand tonnes a year. The pilot plants would be set up at DSW's complex at Sdom.

The APC's paid-up capital consists of 12.6 million shares of JD 5 each, equal to JD 63 million. Additional 15 per cent share capital amounting to JD 9,450,000 has been issued and called from existing shareholders.

The cost of the plant which was estimated in the feasibility report at \$420 million reached \$460 million. The company's current debts stand at JD 84 million of loans to be repaid by the company's export revenues and government assistance.

The project was financed 45 per cent, equal to \$189 million, by capital contributions and 55 per cent, equal to \$231 million, by loans.

Commenting on the cost of the APC project, Mr. Ensour said the project was a massive undertaking



Potash crystals on a conveyor belt after being dried



Potash transport trucks queue at the company's loading terminal.

in an undeveloped area requiring a large infrastructure buildup (electric power, roads, township, hospital, schools), as well as substantial technical development for the unique solar evaporation and refining process.

Describing the work of previous APC administrations, he said: "Overall, I believe the developers did a good job. Certainly, there were corrections and modifications which had to be made to the solar evaporation and refining system, but these are always expected in large engineering projects. Today, the corrections are mostly complete or will be when our refinery modification programme is in place."

The company employs 1,336 people, 89 per cent of whom are Jordanians. The rest are Indians and Pakistanis (133), Egyptian (13), American and Canadian (4), two Iraqis and one Sudanese.

Born in Salt in 1930, Mr. Ensour obtained a degree in power engineering from Queen Mary College at London University. Before taking his post as APC managing director, he was managing director of the Jordan Management and Consultancy Corporation, an investment and industrial concern.

Mr. Ensour is married and has four children, two boys and two girls.

Lender	Amount (JD)	Repayment
Foreign		
British Gov.	6,163,965	20 years
U.S. Aid	12,244,711	15.5 Years
IBRD	10,833,691	7 Years
OPEC	2,174,218	15 Years
Libyan Bank	2,990,000	9 Years
Kuwait Fund	11,163,226	14 Years
Iraqi Fund	4,575,101	10 Years
Austrian Bank	11,619,810	7 Years
Local		
Social Security	180,000	10 Years
Syndicate Loan - A	5,000,000	5 Years
Bonds	7,000,000	7 years
Syndicate Loan - B	12,000,000	4 Years
Deferred Int.-Gov.	6,934,703	5 Years
Total	92,879,425	

The loans are to be repaid according to repayment terms which range from 4 to 20 years.

Details of shareholding's are as below:

Name of Shareholder	Per cent
Gov. of Jordan	51.1
Gov. of Iraq	5.7
Gov. of Kuwait	5.0
Gov. of Libya	5.0
Gov. of S. Arabia	0.4
Arab Mining Co.	25.0
Islamic Bank	6.3
Post Office Saving	.6
Others	.9
Total	100%

City of London takes the fast track

Fast-tracking, the construction method whereby work on a building is begun while the plans are still on the drawing board, is being used in the City of London to accelerate the building expansion necessitated by the so-called Big Bang and other revolutionary developments, as Jane Rippstein reports.

LONDON — With the deregulation of financial services known as Big Bang coming, and with expansion rampant in capital markets, corporate finance and other businesses, the American financial concern Shearson Lehman Brothers could not wait four years for its new London building. And it didn't have to.

It can thank a newly-imported build-it-quick technique called "fast tracking."

Developed some dozen years ago in the U.S. as a way to cut costs, the concept calls for starting construction before design is complete. There are horror stories of missing staircases, out-of-line lift shafts and earlier rentals for owners, speedier turnover for designers and builders, and earlier occupancy for tenants.

"Fast-tracking is an absolute transformation in the speed and the way construction of buildings is approached," says Peter Foggo, a principal at Arup Associates which with its sister firm, Ove Arup & Partners is among Britain's top architectural and engineering companies with projects worldwide. "The Big Bang," he adds, "has put a rocket behind it here."

The incentive for owners to build fast can be dramatic. Take Broadgate, the prestigious multi-building office compound at the northern edge of the City of London.

Although Peter Rogers, construction director at Broadgate developer Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments, cautions "it is difficult to play with the figures," he says that the project's methods saved about £40 (\$58) per sq ft off the usual £120 per sq ft construction costs for such a project, and that rents (for the first buildings) of 28 per sq ft for half a million sq ft of space will be received a year early.

That is some £30 million saved on construction and £15 million in income received, conservatively. And it does not take into account the huge savings in interest costs to finance the construction for another year, which Rogers declined to quantify.

Such financial advantages, amplified by market demand for space, is fuelling a fast-tracking boom, centred mainly in the London office building arena. Foggo says the concept was also practised on the 300,000-sq ft Finsbury Avenue project which his firm handled, with tenants able to start their interiors within 15 months.

But at Broadgate, with just 12 months between the start of construction and interior fitting work, "the speed achieved is out of all proportion to anything done in the U.K. before. It was more than twice as fast as it would have taken four or five years ago."

That, says Peter Morris, executive director for administration at Shearson Lehman, "is an incredible benefit for our business." The firm, with other units of American Express Co., will move into Broadgate within months. The company expressed serious interest in becoming a tenant in May 1985, just as construction began, according to Rogers of Rosehaugh. It was able to begin interior finishing work just one year later.

"This was critical," says Morris. "This is a dynamic business. In four years, we could be five times the size we are now, or half the size. If we had to wait four years to get our building, we could have made a big mistake."

Traditionally, design of a, say, 1 million sq ft office building takes a year, a contractor is hired in competitive bidding and construction takes another two years, explains Gene Kohn of Kohn Pedersen Fox, a leading American architectural firm, which has designed the main tower for the planned £1.5 billion Canary Wharf scheme in London's docklands. But under fast-tracking, which Kohn says is used on 90 per cent of the firm's \$1 billion in work under way, this cycle is truncated by allowing construction to start as early as half way through the point when the overall design is known but working drawings — which detail

how to build it — are not.

The key at that stage is to know enough about a project's overall shape, size and materials to start digging the hole it will rest in and drill the foundations it will stand on.

To do that, "you don't have to know what the doorknobs look like," says Frederick A. Rehkopf of Lehrer-McGovern, a U.S. construction management firm, which is advising on fast-track techniques for a 17-building apartment complex in London, called Chelsea Harbour.

It is in this spirit that Broadgate was built.

On May 2, 1985, Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments, developer of Broadgate, received planning permission to begin the project. Building tradesmen moved onto the site the same day, says Peter Rogers, construction director of the project for Rosehaugh.

Engineers at Arup went into high gear on working drawings, quickly setting the structural grid and loads, and the steel was ordered. By September, the foundations were in and the steel started up. Outside walls were snapped on to the building beginning in November, pipes and wiring started around Christmas, lifts and other inside work followed until enough was ready to let tenants Shearson and another U.S. financial institution, Security Pacific, begin their interior finishings.

The speedy performance on Broadgate stems not just from "fast-track," but from "fast-build," says Ian Macpherson, director and manager of the project for builders Bovis Construction. He relied heavily on such advanced prefabricated systems as toilet units, weighing 10 tonnes, that arrived on site fully made and that were slid into position on air-supported carts. For the exterior, storey-high panels complete with windows, aluminium and granite facing were manufactured off site and hoisted into place in just half an hour each, he says.

A level of cooperation not seen before is needed to pull off fast-tracking successfully, those involved say. Macpherson points out that his team would meet regularly with the designers to check that what they were designing could be understood by workers on site and could be built easily so on-site difficulties were reduced. "The worst place to solve problems is on a construction site," he noted.

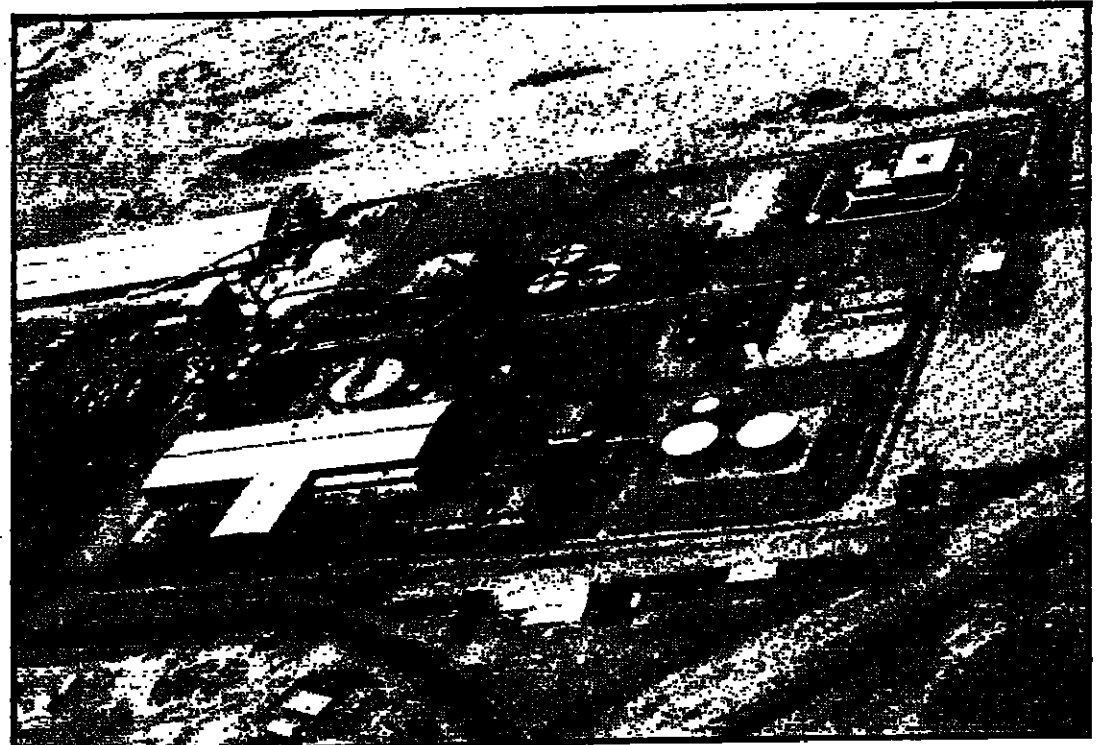
Architects also face the limitation of not being able to change their design substantially. "All things being equal," concedes Kohn, "you'd prefer to complete the drawings, bid it, and then build. You could set the design."

A lot can go wrong — cost overruns, for one. Notes Kohn: "No contractor will give you a lump-sum bid for a project whose design is not complete. You theoretically could pay more." Savings potential also wanes in times of low interest rates and minimal inflation in construction costs — as in the U.S. now. Macpherson of Bovis does see an upsurge in steel prices but says construction costs have not yet risen because the industry was so depressed before the recent boom.

Other misadventures, such a labour strikes, delivery delays or delivery of the wrong goods can also bite heavily into time savings — or force unwanted compromises. Kohn recalls a recent project of his own for which a supplier delivered from Italy the wrong granite. "You wind up saying, 'It's not that bad. We can't wait for the proper stuff. Let's use it.' That happens a lot," he says.

Financial gain is not the only inspiration, proponents insist. John Bennett, a professor of construction management at the University of Reading, believes the adoption of fast-tracking will reverse Britain's reputation for "building slowly and more expensively," with important consequences for attracting overseas business.

— Financial Times feature.



An aerial view of the potash plant complex at Ghor Al Safi near the Dead Sea.

To advertise in this section

Call 667171-6
670141-4
ext. 223

CHINESE RESTAURANT
TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese food
Friendly service
Convenient location
Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akhila Hospital

Tel: 641093

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyyah Girls School
Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳
MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Fully Airconditioned

Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 1:30
18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT
packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world
Tel: 664000 Tel: 22265 REMCO JO
Cable: Nasserhot
P.O. Box 92647
AMMAN JORDAN

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket

Mongolian Barbeque for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

IT IS CORRU
IT IS GREEN
IT IS RESTAURANT
IT IS IN JABAL AMMAN
IT IS NICE
IT IS YOURS
IT IS COME!

641585

CHINA RESTAURANT
NEXT TO GRINDLAYS BANK

Take away service available

Open daily 11:30 - 3:30
and 6:30 - 11:00

AQABA
Tel: 03-314415

Lendl faces Becker in Australian indoor final

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Defending champion Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia rallied to defeat Australian Pat Cash 7-5, 6-2 Saturday and advanced to the final of the \$345,000 Australian Indoor Tennis Championship at the Sydney Entertainment Centre.

Cash, a former top 10 player now ranked 80th in the world, led 4-2 in the first set before the U.S. Open champion took control.

The U.S. and French Open champion, top seed in this event, took 91 minutes to subdue Davis Cup star Cash, who has been troubled by a back injury for much of the year.

Lendl will face teenage Wimbledon champion Boris Becker of West Germany in Sunday's final of the Nabisco Grand Prix event, which is being played on a Plexipave surface.

Becker, 18, stormed into the final with a straightforward 6-4, 6-4 triumph over unseeded Glenn Layendecker of the United States. Left-hander Layendecker fought hard, but was unable to match the power and accuracy of the German.

Becker romped to a 5-2 lead with two breaks of serve, and although Layendecker, ranked 104th in the world, pulled back one break, Becker took the first set and complete control of the contest.

Becker qualified for his sixth Grand Prix final of the year against Lendl's 11th.

Becker has inflicted the two of only four losses Lendl has suffered this year, including in the Wimbledon final.

After falling behind against unseeded Cash, Lendl turned on the power to overwhelm an opponent lacking in match practice.

Lendl was full of authority from the baseline and took advantage of Cash's weak second serve.

"When I lost my serve in the first set, that was a wake up call,"

Lendl said.

"I think Pat still lacks a bit of confidence and matchplay but I'm not at my peak either. I'm playing fairly well, but not great."

The difference between the two players was best illustrated by the crucial points, nearly all of which Lendl won.

Becker also had to work hard against Layendecker, playing his first major semi-final.

Lendl goes into the final with a 66-4 record for the year.

Becker has the added motivation of knowing the final will be televised live in his homeland.

"I'll have to mix it up against Lendl," he said. "I'll serve and volley some and stay back a bit. It might depend on stamina."

The best-of-five sets final starts at 0100 GMT Sunday.

The doubles final, to be played after the singles, features Becker and Australian John Fitzgerald against two-time Wimbledon champions Paul McNamee and Peter McNamara.

India puts pressure on Australia

BOMBAY, India (AP) — Two centuries and a marathon record-shattering partnership by Indians Dilip Vengsarkar and Ravi Shastri on Saturday placed Australia under pressure to save the third and final cricket test match.

India declared its first innings closed at 517 for five after the tea break, a lead of 172 runs over Australia. It was the highest-ever total by India against Australia on its own soil.

Australian openers David Boon and Geoff Marsh batted for nine overs and scored nine runs in the second innings before the stumps were drawn on the fourth day of the match. Surrounded by half-a-dozen close-in fielders, Boon ballooned a bat-and-pad catch to silly point off spinner Maninder Singh but Mohammad Azharuddin muffed it.

The outcome of the series hinges on the Bombay test since there was no result in the previous two contests. The Madras test ended in the second tie in cricket history, while the rain-marred second match in New Delhi was drawn.

The 298-run unbeaten stand between Vengsarkar and Shastri was the highest ever for any wicket between India and Australia. It broke the 39-year-old record of

Don Bradman and A.C. Barnes registered for the second wicket at Adelaide.

Vengsarkar and Shastri batted 388 minutes since they came together shortly after the tea break on Friday. The Australian bowlers toiled in vain for nearly five hours on Saturday to break the partnership that appeared set to establish new records until Indian captain Kapil Dev declared 48 minutes after tea.

The 30-year-old Vengsarkar was a treat to watch, severely punishing the pacers and the spinners in his 432-minute knock studded with 21 thundering fours and a six. His 164-run unbeaten innings was the highest in the 87 tests that he has played so far, eclipsing the 159 he made against the West Indies in the 1983-84 series.

Vengsarkar reached his second test century against Australia with a cut to the boundary while facing the 211th ball of his knock. He then immediately lifted left-arm spinner Greg Matthews — Australia's most successful bowler — for a six.

Shastri, in contrast, combined long stints of caution with sudden bursts of aggression in his innings of 121 not out.

He was stuck for 32 minutes at 49 before he stole a single to

complete his half-century and then, after a flurry of three sixes to the mid-on fence, he spent a hesitant one hour to take his score from 96 to 100. During this period, he was repeatedly jeered by the 37,000 spectators at Bombay's seaside Wankhede Stadium who wanted him to get on with the runs.

Having taken 368 minutes and 275 deliveries to complete his first ever century against Australia and the sixth of his 46-test career, the 24-year-old Indian vice captain opened out with a string of boundaries and sixes.

It was a tribute to the young all-rounder's talent that he hit the sixes to the particular two stands where the crowds were chanting, "down, down Shastri" and "we want a sixer."

Shastri hoisted India's 500 with a towering six to the mid-wicket fence off Australia's second left-arm spinner, Ray Bright. The 500 came in 726 minutes, and after Shastri lifted two more balls over the fence the declaration was announced.

Shastri, who hit six sixes in all, had the dubious satisfaction of knowing that he is the first ever Indian batsman to slam three sixes in a hundred.

Both Vengsarkar and Shastri are local residents, and their centuries followed a hundred by another native of Bombay, India's run machine Sunil Gavaskar. The legendary cricketer, scorer of the highest number of test centuries, reinforced his world record Friday by cracking 103. Gavaskar, with 9,572 aggregate runs to his credit, is also the most prolific scorer in cricket history.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Bridge Festival gets underway

AMMAN (J.T.) — The fifth annual Jordan Bridge Festival will be held from Oct. 20 to Oct. 25 at the Amman Holiday Inn. Sponsored by the Jordan Bridge Federation, the festival will include 80 to 100 players, both local and regional, from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Greece, according to a spokesman for the festival.

Italian mountaineer Messner set records

NEW DELHI (R) — Italian mountaineer Reinhold Messner has conquered the Lhotse Peak in Nepal and set a record by becoming the first man to scale each of the world's 14 mountains over 8,000 metres (26,000 feet), the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Saturday. It said the 43-year-old climber reached the top of the world's fourth highest peak of 8,516 metres (27,940 feet) in the Himalayas on Thursday morning.

Denmark's Jacobsen retains boxing title

RANDERS, Denmark (AP) — Denmark's Gert Bo Jacobsen defended his European lightweight boxing title against challenger Fernand Blanco of Belgium in Randers Friday night. The 24-year-old Jacobsen outpointed the Spanish-born Blanco 120-116, 117-115, 119-113 in their 12-round bout before 2,500 fans.

Navratilova downs Shriver

FILDERSTADT, West Germany (AP) — Martina Navratilova eliminated fellow American Pam Shriver 6-1, 7-6 (8-6) Saturday to advance to the final of the \$175,000 Porsche Grand Prix Women's Tennis Tournament. Navratilova, the world's no. 1-ranked women's player who was celebrating her 30th birthday Saturday, ousted the 25-year-old Shriver in an 82-minute semifinal.

Nottingham Forest tops England's 1st division

LONDON (R) — Nottingham Forest ended Norwich City's one-week reign as leader of the English First Division when it beat Queen's Park Rangers 1-0 Saturday to return to the top as Norwich drew 1-1 with West Ham.

But Brian Clough's team, heralded as the most refreshing team for a decade in some quarters a few weeks ago, had to be content with an undistinguished win courtesy of a 47th minute goal from manager's son Nigel.

Cynics might even suggest Forest's most telling move was played Friday when Clough senior refused Norwich's request to retain central defender Ian Butterworth on loan for a second month.

He was plainly missed in the Norwich defence as West Ham striker Paul Goddard marked his first appearance of the season with the Londoners' 75th minute equaliser. Kevin Drinkell having opened the scoring for Norwich after 58 minutes.

Liverpool, beaten at home by Tottenham last week, recovered its normal form at Anfield by trouncing League Cup holders Oxford United 4-0 to move up to a threatening third position. But Tottenham, third Saturday morning, failed to capitalise on a chance of moving closer to the top

when it was held 1-1 at home by Sheffield Wednesday — a big disappointment for the fans who had expected something special on the home debut of Belgian international striker Nico Claesen.

Claesen, who joined Tottenham from Standard Liege for £600,000 (\$900,000) failed to impress against the physically powerful Sheffield defence.

Clive Allen scored his 13th goal in 13 appearances this season from a pass by his cousin Paul to put Tottenham in front only seconds before halftime, but midfielder Gary Megson levelled the scores on the hour.

Claesen, a hat-trick hero in midweek as Belgium beat Luxembourg 6-0 in the European Championship, would have loved the home debut of the man he replaced at White Hart Lane.

Mark Falco, who was sold by Tottenham to Watford for £340,000 (\$510,000), hit a hat-trick as the club, whose chairman is rock star Elton John, ended Aston Villa's revival with a 4-2 victory.

Falco, considered surplus to requirements by Tottenham's manager David Pleat, hooked in his first goal in the 50th minute, headed his second in the 52nd and tapped in his third after 72 minutes.

Triptych wins Dubai Stakes

NEWMARKET, England (AP) — Triptych, one of the season's most consistent European thoroughbreds, won the £86,750 (\$12,140) Dubai Champion Stakes for France Saturday, bursting through in the final two furlongs and holding off Celestial Storm in an exciting finish.

Ridden by former Hong Kong national champion Tony Cruz, the 4-year-old filly was priced at 4 to 1, with Celestial Storm at 9 to 1. Park Express, the 3 to 1 favourite, finished third.

Triptych, which placed third in the prestigious Prix De L'Arc De Triomphe earlier this month, was the ninth filly to win the Dubai Champion Stakes in the last 14 years.

The horse was poorly positioned for much of the race but took the front-runners by surprise with a sudden surge through the middle.

The Luca Cumani-trained Celestial Storm, with Ray Cochrane on board, put in a strong challenge over the final few metres. But the American-trained horse, second in the St. Leger Classic earlier in the season, could not catch Triptych.

No favourite has won the Dubai Champion Stakes for 12 years and although Park Express made the early running and led for the first half of the race, jockey John Reid could not sustain the momentum and had to be content with third place.

Taekwondo coach believes victory comes from the heart

By Fred Donovan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I teach my players that they have to want to win from the heart," says Mikhled Assaf, one of the coaches of the Jordanian taekwondo team. Such a coaching philosophy paid off handsomely for the Jordanian team at the 10th Asian Games held in Seoul from Sept. 20 to Oct. 6.

The taekwondo team succeeded in winning four medals, three silver and one bronze, the only medals Jordan took away from the games.

Asked whether he expected such success in Seoul, Assaf responds: "Yes, of course. I knew we would do well. I was expecting five medals."

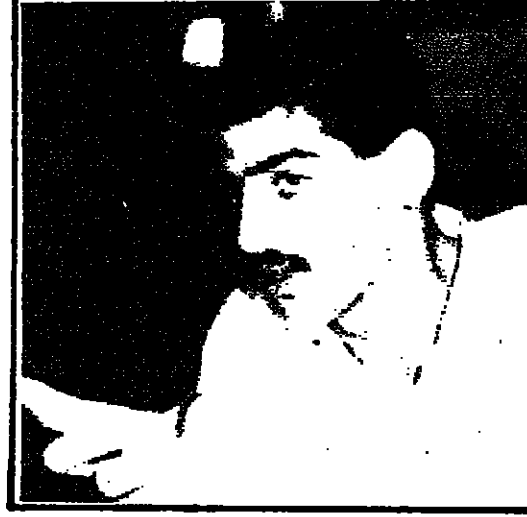
Speaking with an assurance that comes from success, Assaf exudes confidence, confidence which has obviously rubbed off on his players. With close cut hair, a well-built physique, and an aqua coloured Adidas shirt, Assaf looks the part of a coach who has just helped lead his team to four medals.

Since becoming a coach in 1980, the 34-year-old Jordanian has helped shape Jordan's taekwondo team into one of the best in the world.

He believes that every player should work his hardest to win. "The important thing for a player is to have fighting spirit," asserts



Mikhled Assaf



Samer Kamal

Assaf. "My opinion is that every player should compete not simply to participate but to win."

To achieve this aim of winning, Assaf helped prepare the team for many months before the Asian Games. After spending the month of March training in Jordan, the team headed for Australia to compete in the 7th Asian championship. At the championship, Jordan won two medals: Tareq Lababidi won a silver, and Samer Kamal took a bronze. After that, the team competed in the first World Cup for taekwondo held in Colorado Springs in July.

Following those two tournaments, the team was invited by the Taiwan Olympic Committee to train in the south of Taiwan. There, they trained for a month with the Taiwan taekwondo team.

From there, the team went directly to Seoul to participate in the Asian Games. Once there, the intense preparations began to pay off.

The taekwondo team's disciplined approach was unique among the athletes in Seoul, according to Samer Kamal, the team's captain and silver medal winner.

"Our team was the best organized team at the Asian Games," boasts Kamal. "When we went to eat, we went in line. We would stand together and read the Koran. We would then all sit down together," says Kamal.

"It was teamwork always, before, during, and after the competition. You really felt like you were fighting for the whole team, not just as individuals," adds Kamal.

That type of teamwork led to a winning stay in Seoul. Kamal himself took a hard earned silver in the featherweight division. In his final match against South Korean Han Jae-Koo, Kamal was kicked in the face and had to be taken out on a stretcher. He returned, however, in time to mount the podium to receive his silver medal.

"Going into the fight I thought I could win the gold medal," says Kamal. "He (Jae-Koo) is the best player in his weight class in the world. He is three-time world champion," states Kamal.

"I was thinking before the fight: if I win, that would be unexpected. I would win more; if I lose, I would lose nothing," Kamal muses.

The road to the final was not an

easy one for Kamal. "I got hit many times in the legs. I had trouble standing, but I kept fighting," says Kamal. "My mind was focused on my opponent, and how to win."

With that kind of concentration, Kamal, a 21-year-old economic student at the University of Jordan, made his way to the finals and a silver medal.

One of his teammates, Tareq Lababidi, pulled one of the major upsets of the games. In a quarterfinal match, he defeated the South Korean captain; Hong Jong-Man. According to coach Assaf, Jong-Man took the world championship in his weight class five times.

Lababidi went on to take the bronze medal in the bantamweight division. The other two silver medals were won by Ahmad Ali Hussein, in the middleweight division, and Tawfiq Nwaiser, in the heavyweight division.

Another medal was expected from Khalil Akil, but he missed the deadline for the weigh-in and was not allowed to fight. On this subject, coach Assaf becomes defensive. "Since 1979 the Jordan taekwondo team has competed internationally and there have been no mistakes. Now, you have this one mistake. I don't think it should be emphasised."

Assaf goes on to explain how the incident happened. "I was up until 4:00 a.m. looking after Kamal after he had been kicked and knocked out. He was still dizzy. We were only fifteen minutes late." Fifteen minutes, however, were enough to disqualify Akil and deprive Jordan of another medal opportunity.

Future plans

Assaf is optimistic about the team's future prospects. In the upcoming Arab championships to be held in Morocco next month, he expects even more from his players. "We anticipate taking first place with at least five gold medals," he predicts.

As for the team's longer-range success, Assaf is no less confident. "We are planning much more. We are aiming to become the number one taekwondo team in Asia. Obviously, our main competition is with South Korea."

This is a bold assertion considering that taekwondo is the native sport of South Korea. But, this does not phase a coach who believes so strongly in his team's abilities.

NEW  **NEW**

LACOSTE
Shoes

Swimming *Jogging* *Sports*

WE SELL THE ORIGINAL
AGENT: LACOSTE SHOP
WADI SAQRA STREET
OPPOSITE WADI SAQRA BOOK-SHOP
TEL: 605311

A VACANCY FOR AN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

A leading Jordanian company is seeking an executive secretary with high qualifications. Applicants must be Jordanians, fluent both in Arabic and English languages reading, writing and conversation and with good experience in all office work including typing in Arabic and English and using the telex. Previous experience is required and salary range is commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Please send applications and CV with the most recent photo as well as all certificates addressed to the:

Assistant General Manager
P.O. Box 7239,
Amman - Jordan.

Dr. Walid Sarhan
Psychiatrist
M.B.B. Ch., M.R.C. Psych. (U.K.)

Clinic (Flat 2) The Medical Centre
Opposite the Ministry of Health
Jabal Al-Hussein Amman - Jordan
Hours: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m./4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Tel: 676300
P.O. Box 921420

CAR FOR SALE

Lada 1300, year 1980, 66,000 KM. Good condition, best offer, duty UNPAID.

Call: 644635 or 674841 Mrs. Fuchs

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

A first-floor apartment consisting of two bedrooms, dining room, salon with central heating and telephone. The apartment is within a building in stage I of Al Hussein Housing Estate.

Call: 601201

FOR RENT
SMALL FURNISHED FLAT

One bedroom, one living, dining room, kitchen and bath, garden, separate entrance, telephone, central heating.
Located in very quiet area behind Kilo Supermarket, 900 metres from Mecca Street.

For more information please call tel: 813027, after 3 p.m. - Amman.

FOR SALE IN PERFECT CONDITION

90-year old carpet, portable organ. Electrolux vacuum cleaner, rowing gym, picture cameras, super 8 movie sound camera.

Tel. 817916

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Two bedrooms, dining and sitting hall Third floor separate central heating.
Located opposite Shmeisani gas station
Please call: 664973

FURNISHED FLATS FOR RENT

Fully-furnished one bedroom and two bedroom flats, w/w carpet, colour T.V., central heating, telephone. Two locations, Jabal Amman, near Fifth Circle and Abdali area.

Phone: 673768, 672842 after 2 p.m.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Ground floor apartment with a big garden, fully furnished with excellent furniture. Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, dining room, living room, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, 2 balconies with central heating and telephone. Stone building.

Location: Bayader Wadi Al Seer
Please contact tel. 818608

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

AURORA

Performances 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625155

REMO

Performances 3.15, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573

WET GOLD

Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

DOIN TIME

Performances 3.30, 6.40, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198

CHILDREN OF RAGE

Performances 12.15, 3.00, 5.00, 8.00

Pravda: Washington seeks to undermine ABM treaty

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda said Saturday the American side had suggested replacing the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty at the Reykjavik summit and this proved Washington sought to undermine the pact.

"It is the American and not the Soviet side which seeks to change the ABM treaty or, to be more exact, to undermine it," Pravda said in an editorial.

"At the Reykjavik meeting the American side suggested that the ABM treaty be replaced by another one which would regulate the creation of space-based ABM systems," it said.

Pravda said the U.S. had sought to blame the failure to reach firm arms accords at the summit on Moscow for trying to change the treaty.

It was, in fact, the Americans who undermined the pact, it said, by the development of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) or "Star Wars" programme outside the laboratory.

Moscow says article 5 of the treaty bans space-based and sea-based ABM systems and tests for their development.

Pravda quoted U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz as contesting the legal grounds on which Moscow wished to restrict SDI development. It said Mr. Shultz stated point-blank that there was nothing in the treaty on limitation of ABM systems.

"Why did the president need to come up with the proposal to replace the ABM treaty if the SDI agreement could really be implemented within the framework of the present treaty as the American side tried to present it?" Pravda asked.

The Soviet Union has said it is not prepared to implement any separate agreements that might be reached on long-range and intermediate weapons unless both sides could also agree on an overall arms package.

It sees SDI as the main political obstacle to the reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Shultz, seeking to resolve questions about nuclear arms reductions discussed in Iceland, said Friday the United States suggested only the elimination of ballistic missiles — not all long-range weapons.

Mr. Shultz also said that America would need to increase spending on non-nuclear forces to keep peace in the world without nuclear weapons.

Both sides would still keep atomic bomb-equipped aircraft and cruise missiles with nuclear warheads under the proposal, Mr. Shultz said during an appearance at the National Press Club.

The secretary was trying to answer a question raised by Democratic Senator Sam Nunn and other defence experts, about what actually was on the table at the summit last weekend in Reykjavik.

Sen. Nunn is among the most conservative of Democrats on defence policy, and has been a key ally of the Republican administration of President Reagan on many issues.

In explaining the prospective deals made with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Mr. Reagan and others have said the two

leaders would have agreed to eliminate all long-range nuclear weapons by 1996 had they not failed to reach agreement on the future of Mr. Reagan's SDI.

Sen. Nunn argued that eliminating all offensive weapons would have been a disaster for the United States and its allies, because of the Soviets' overwhelming superiority in conventional military forces.

The foundation of U.S. nuclear policy over the past 40 years has been the U.S. threat to use its offensive nuclear forces to deter a Soviet attack against Europe.

In giving a detailed account of how the proposals were submitted to the Soviets during the last day of the Iceland summit, Mr. Shultz said all offensive weapons would be cut by about 50 per cent over a five-year period ending in 1991.

The next step, over the ensuing five-years, would be elimination of "remaining" ballistic missiles, he said.

Ballistic missiles are the long-range rockets that operate similarly to those used in space shots. Most bombs carried by airplanes are powered by gravity and cruise missiles use engines similar to jets.

Queen Elizabeth arrives in Canton

CANTON, China (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II arrived Saturday in this southern city, the last stop of a 3,400-kilometre, six-day trip to China.

The queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, flew in from the southern provincial capital of Kunming, where she met members of some of the numerous ethnic minorities who populate the remote hills of Yunnan province.

Queen Elizabeth is the first reigning British monarch to visit China. The Chinese have marked the occasion — and the successful 1984 conclusion of talks on the return of the British colony of Hong Kong to China in 1997 — with hospitality rarely proffered to foreign dignitaries.

The reception at Canton airport was small, but as with other cities she has visited, her motorcade route into the city was lined with thousands of well-wishers and the curious.

She rode in a dark blue Rolls-Royce into the city along with Guangdong province Governor Ye Xuanping, who was to be her host at a luncheon.

The only problem in the trip so far has been reported derogatory remarks about China made Thursday by Prince Philip to a group of exchange students from Edinburgh.

Prince Philip, in a private conversation, reportedly said Peking was "ghastly" and made a derogatory remark about the shape of Chinese eyes.

The gaffe has been widely reported in the British press but ignored in China.

Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Li Zhaoxing, asked about the Duke of Edinburgh's remarks, declined comment, saying: "I didn't hear the remarks you mentioned, for I was not there."

He said Sino-British relations were developing well and "the current visit to China by the Queen of Britain has been very smooth and successful."

"The queen and the prince have said on several occasions that their stay in China has been very pleasant," he added.

The royal couple was scheduled to board the queen's yacht, Britannia, for a two-day cruise before arriving in Hong Kong.

However, their plans were in flux because typhoon Ellen was approaching the Chinese coast.

During her trip, the queen has met with China's top leaders, including Deng Xiaoping.

Reagan plane involved in minor incident with F-4

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan's aircraft and an air force fighter jet were involved in a minor safety incident over Western Pennsylvania, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said.

Spokesman Steven Hayes said Friday Air Force One was heading to Grand Forks, North Dakota when, around 10 a.m. (1400 GMT), another aircraft, believed to be an air force F-4 fighter, came within the eight-kilometre separation limit observed by the FAA.

"The controller, operating out of Cleveland, observed what appeared to be flight paths that would put the two aircraft within

the five-mile limit. He directed the F-4 to turn east. The Communication was not acknowledged."

Hayes said the controller tried again and still got no response. "He then contacted the pilot of Air Force One and directed him to turn left and descend to about 29,000 feet, which he did."

"The closest point they came was 4.3 miles (6.9 kilometres)," Hayes said, "At no time was it in any way a dangerous situation."

The White House was not immediately available for comment and the air force said it had not received a report on the incident.

Dissidents launch appeal to mark Hungarian revolt

BUDAPEST (R) — More than 120 dissidents from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland called on the world Saturday to commemorate the Hungarian uprising of 30 years ago and pledged to continue fighting for democracy.

In a joint appeal, they hailed the "revolution" that broke out in Budapest on Oct. 23, 1956 — official Communist parlance calls it a "counter-revolution" — as a common heritage and a source of inspiration.

"The struggle made it clear that what the Hungarian people really wanted was independence, democracy and neutrality," they said in a statement, described as the first joint declaration by members of the democratic opposition in those four countries.

Soviet tanks rolled into Hungary on Nov. 4 to quash the uprising and install Janos Kadar as Communist Party leader, a position he still holds. Nearly 3,000 Hungarians were killed in the uprising and at least 200 later executed.

Saturday's "Hungarian appeal" draws parallels between the uprising and events in Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland.

"The Hungarian revolution as well as the uprising in East Berlin, the Prague Spring, and the social movement of the free trade union Solidarity in Poland were suppressed either by Soviet intervention or domestic military violence," it said.

Life had become easier for many over the past 30 years but the basic demands of the revolutionaries had not been met, it said.

"We declare our joint determination to struggle for political democracy in our countries, pluralism based on the

principles of self-government, peaceful reunification of divided Europe and its democratic integration, as well as the rights for all minorities."

The 122 signatories expressed support for what they described as each others' efforts for a better, free and decent life.

Among the 54 Hungarians who signed the appeal are most of the unofficial "Democratic Opposition" Movement and members of the Danube Circle group, which has protested against a hydroelectric dam project with Czechoslovakia.

Prominent names include novelist Gyorgy Konrad, Miklos Haraszti (tried for his book Worker in a Worker's State) and Laszlo Rajk, son of a foreign minister executed in 1949 when current Hungarian leader Janos Kadar was interior minister.

All the best-known Czechoslovak dissidents signed the document, including playwright Vaclav Havel and such spokesmen of the Charter 77 human rights movement as Jiri Dienstbier, Vaclav Benda, Petr Uhl and Vaclav Malý.

The 28 Polish signatories include Jacek Kuron and Adam Michnik of the civil rights organisation KOR. Leading members of the banned Solidarity trade union also signed, although not Lech Walesa or long-term underground leader Zbigniew Bujak.

Among the 16 East German signatories are unofficial peace activists Baerbel Bohley and Gerd Poppe, and Ralf Hirsch, who has collected more than 1,000 signatures petitioning the East German authorities to reconsider their nuclear power policy in the light of the Chernobyl nuclear accident.

Colombian journalist returns home after detention without charges in U.S.

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombian journalist Patricia Lara says she suffered "all kind of abuses" from U.S. immigration officials, who detained her for five days and finally expelled her.

Ms. Lara said she was not told why she was not allowed in the United States and was not given a hearing. Ms. Lara, 35, said she would start legal action against the U.S. government.

"Explained to them (American officials) I was never a member of the Communist Party or any subversive organisation," Ms. Lara told a news conference after arriving here Friday.

She was detained at New York's Kennedy International Airport on Sunday when she arrived in the United States.

Neither the State Department nor the immigration service would say why Ms. Lara was deported. But Charles Troy, a spokesman

for the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS), said her name appeared in the agency's "lookout book," which means she can be kept out of the country under the law that deals with aliens suspected of Communist, subversive or terrorist activity.

Ms. Lara, a reporter for Colombia's leading newspaper, El Tiempo, described herself as a "liberal journalist who because of her job has had contacts with people from the Capitalist and the Communist World."

She has written a book profiling Colombian guerrillas. Her arrest, she said, was probably caused by "the critiques I made of American policy in Central America."

She came to New York at the invitation of the Columbia School of Journalism to attend the presentation of the Maria Moors Cabot Prizes, presented annually

to journalists specialising in Latin America. She was not a recipient of the prize.

Ms. Lara had been held in a maximum-security cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Centre until her departure, said her lawyer, Arthur Helton.

On Thursday, Acting Immigration and Naturalisation Service Regional Commissioner Michael D. Mosbacher ordered her deported.

The INS also denied a request from officials at the Colombian embassy in Washington that Ms. Lara be released into their custody so she could attend the dinner at Columbia University.

Press group protests In Miami the president of the Inter-American Press Association (IAPA) filed a protest Friday with the U.S. State Department over the expulsion of Ms. Lara.

'Captured American's lawyer must be Nicaraguan'

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — The chief defence lawyer for Eugene Hasenfus, a pilot before a people's tribunal must be Nicaraguan, but the captured American will be allowed U.S. legal advisers as well, the justice minister said Friday.

Former U.S. attorney General Griffin Bell has agreed to defend Hasenfus, 45, against charges of violating Nicaragua's law of maintenance of order and public security.

But Nicaraguan Justice Minister Rodrigo Reyes told the Associated Press that while the American defendant "has the right to have anyone he likes as an adviser," Nicaraguan law dictates that he must be represented by a Nicaraguan lawyer registered with the country's supreme court.

Hasenfus, 45, was captured on Oct. 6, the day after Sandinista soldiers in southern Nicaragua shot down a military transport plane from which Hasenfus and three other men were to drop supplies to anti-government contra rebels. The other crewmen died in the crash.

The Justice Ministry announced Thursday that Hasenfus would be tried by the People's Anti-Somocista Tribunal, a body

established in 1983 to prosecute cases of anti-revolutionary activity.

If convicted, Hasenfus could face up to 30 years in prison.

Mr. Bell, attorney general from 1977 to 1979, said the defendant's family asked him last week to represent Hasenfus.

He said he had not spoken with Hasenfus and knew nothing about the Nicaraguan legal system. Mr. Reyes said Hasenfus could choose his own Nicaraguan lawyer or have one appointed for him.

Hasenfus will be brought before the tribunal Monday to hear the charges against him, the first step in the proceedings.

"We are preparing the accusation based on evidence found in the plane and other evidence," Mr. Reyes said. "We have not named the prosecutor but we will have done so by Monday."

A U.S. official said the Sandinistas want to make a show trial.

"They want to condemn the United States as much as they can to make us look as bad as possible," said U.S. embassy spokesman Alberto Fernandez.

"On the other hand, they must make the trial seem as fair as possible."

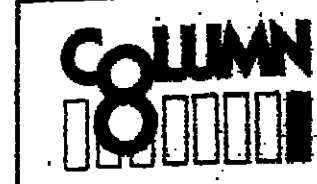
Mr. Fernandez said the embassy still has not received word if Hasenfus will be allowed to see U.S. officials before the trial begins.

The U.S. government protested to the Sandinistas this week that the tribunal "affords few, if any, of the rights and protections to accused persons generally called for by international conventions and treaties."

According to a report issued last July by the New York-based International League for Human Rights, most of the defendants that appeared before the people's tribunals in the past have been convicted solely on the basis of self-incriminating statements signed during their detention period.

Hasenfus told reporters at a news conference arranged by his captors last week that he had flown 10 previous missions to drop military gear to the contra rebels, and that two CIA employees in El Salvador organised the flights.

Meanwhile an American pilot was killed when his plane was shot down while resupplying Nicaraguan contra rebels flew



Damages sought for 4 in Swastika case

LOS ANGELES (R) — The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a suit seeking damages for four men who were alleged to have been asked to leave a German restaurant because they were wearing lapel pins containing Swastikas. The suit, filed in superior court, alleged the men were told by the security manager at the Alpine Village Restaurant in Torrance, on the outskirts of Los Angeles, they were trespassing. The four were arrested and placed in jail for a night after they refused to leave the restaurant, the suit alleged.

The suit, filed on behalf of Joseph Fields, Hal Pollin, Stanley Wink and Gene Loven, all of the Los Angeles area, alleged the men's civil rights were violated. The union, which retains lawyers to protect people's civil rights, asked for unspecified damages and a court order barring the restaurant from refusing service and having people arrested on the basis of their political insignia.

Poachers have killed 3,693 Tanzanian elephants in 7 years

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Poachers in Tanzania have killed 3,693 elephants and 97 rhinos in the past seven years, the official Shihata News Agency has reported. Quoting a government report, the agency said more than half of each of the two endangered species were killed in the Selous Game Reserve in the South of the country. It said the two species faced extinction unless firm action was taken to combat poaching. The report accused unidentified foreigners of being involved in poaching and called for their expulsion, the agency added. It said wildlife conservation in Tanzania was hampered by inadequate staff, lack of vehicles, weapons and ammunition and the large size of the areas involved.

Humans fight to preserve pandas

PEKING (R) — About 1,700 humans are fighting desperately to preserve their natural habitat against encroachment by 100 hungry pandas. The China Daily said Saturday that authorities at Wolong Nature Reserve in Sichuan province had no luck in enticing the determined humans away from the area with offers of new housing, annual subsidies and a new power station. The newspaper said the pandas were running out of food in their own mountain habitat and would have to move downhill where they could have a more varied bamboo diet. "It is simply the only way out for the pandas to come down to the lower hills where they can find other types of bamboo," said Qiu Xianming, a Wolong Reserve official. However, the proposed new panda area is inhabited by people who hunt, fell trees and collect medicinal herbs for a living and who are very reluctant to change their way of life. The reserve, which will be visited by Britain's Prince Philip when he returns to China next week as president of the World Wildlife Fund, is home to about 100 giant pandas, more than 10 per cent of the country's estimated total.

Early bird traps alleged egg smuggler

CARDIFF (R) — A smuggler bringing rare falcon eggs into Britain was arrested when one started to hatch out inside his shirt. A Welsh court was told. Customs officers testified that they heard "tweeting" from within the clothes of Ceri Griffiths, 43. Special and valuable eggs were said to have been hidden in secret pockets of T-shirts worn by Griffiths and accomplices. Griffiths and two others are charged with trying to bring in 27 "Lanner Falcon" eggs from Morocco, worth nearly £6,000 (\$8,600). The case continues.

U.S. denies entry to Philippine golfers

MANILA (R) — The Philippines has pulled out of the world amateur golf championship in Caracas because three players who were to pick up Venezuelan visas in San Francisco were refused entry to the United States, assistant team manager Jake Ayson said. Ayson said the U.S. embassy refused temporary entry visas for top Philippine players Robert Factorin, Dave Hernandez and Willie Vicario.

Martens swiftly replaces resigned minister

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens, faced with his greatest challenge in five years of leadership, acted swiftly on Saturday to limit damage caused by the surprise overnight resignation of his interior minister.

Mr. Martens nominated a 61-year-old former interior minister, Joseph Michel, to replace Charles Ferdinand Nothomb, who left office after failing to resolve a bitter language dispute between the country's French and Dutch speakers.

Mr. Michel's task in trying to defuse a row over the sacking of a militant French-speaking rural mayor for not speaking enough Dutch was described as "a suicide mission" by a senior government source.

Political commentators expressed surprise at the speed with which Mr. Martens was able to find a successor to the outgoing minister.

Under an agreement on the share-out of portfolios within the centre-right coalition, the replacement had to come from the

same French-speaking Christian Democrat Party that has consistently taken a hard-line throughout the bizarre affair.

A Belgian high court ruled earlier this month that Mayor Jose Happort could not carry out his duties in an area where the administrative language is Dutch, although more than two thirds of his electors are French speakers.

The four-party governing coalition of two Dutch and two French speaking parties is split over the affair and faces collapse.

Congress passes U.S. immigration, drug bills

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress gave its final stamp of approval on Friday to an immigration bill which provided for penalties for U.S. employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens and amnesty for undocumented residents with established roots in the country.

The 63-24 Senate vote sent the House-passed legislation to President Ronald Reagan, who has agreed to sign it, sponsors said. The bill had lingered in the Congress for six years.

The final version provided for fines and prison terms for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens, and amnesty for those who came to the United States before 1982.

Opponents of the bill said it was unfair to 1.9 million current applicants who waded through legal channels to become U.S. residents. They also expressed concern that illegal aliens could produce documentation to verify they qualified for amnesty.

Included was a legalisation programme for foreign agricultural workers who harvest perishable fruits and vegetables.

The programme would give temporary resident status to aliens who have worked at least 90 days in agriculture from May 1, 1985, through May 1, 1986. Aliens who have worked 90 days a year for three years could adjust to permanent resident status after one year; those who worked 90 days only between May 1985 and May 1986 would have to wait two years.

For employers, there would be a six-month education period during which no enforcement actions would be taken. During the subsequent year, a warning citation would be issued for the first offense.

Then, a graduated system

would take effect, with a third offense carrying a civil fine of between \$3,000 and \$10,000 per illegal alien. The bill also would authorise criminal penalties of up to six months' imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine for those engaging a "pattern or practice" of hiring illegal aliens.

The sanctions and new anti-discrimination protections for people of Latin American descent could be eliminated after three years if a general accounting office study found them unfair and Congress concurred.

Those qualifying for amnesty could adjust to permanent status after 18 months as temporary residents, provided they could show a minimal understanding of English and knowledge of the history and government of the United States.

The Senate, deleting a controversial death-penalty provision, also gave final U.S. congressional approval to a comprehensive anti-drug bill Friday night and sent it to President Reagan.

The bill, which passed the House of Representatives earlier in the day by a 378-16 vote, was approved in the Senate by a voice vote.

The Senate took the no-death-penalty option in a two-bill option package that was sent over by a House. It was passed without any debate.

The unusual arrangement gave House members a third opportunity to express their support for the death penalty while avoiding a delaying action in the Senate that could have killed the legislation.

With a single vote, the House adopted a so-called self-enacting rule that passed two virtually identical bills.

El Salvador may end search for earthquake survivors

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — The government struggled Saturday to meet the needs of tens of thousands of homeless earthquake victims as an international rescue corps considered abandoning its search for survivors.

Meanwhile, a logjam that held up the arrival of a number of mercy flights from the United States appeared to have been broken. A high-ranking Roman Catholic Church official had blamed the U.S. State Department for the delay.

Rescue workers planned to probe the ruins of the downtown Ruben Dario building for signs of life at least one more time before deciding whether to give up their grim, dangerous task.

The block-long, five-story building, which was reduced to a heap of rubble by the Oct. 10 quake, gave up its last survivor Wednesday. About 150 people had been pulled alive from the wreckage earlier.

Hope was abandoned earlier in the week of finding further survivors in any of the more than 75 other many-storied buildings that were felled or heavily damaged in the central commercial district of this city of 800,000.

"I think by Saturday you'll see a lot (of rescue teams) will be leaving," Joaquin Del Cueto of the Miami, Florida, Fire-Rescue Squad said Friday.

The quake killed about 1,000 people, injured more than 8,000 and left around 150,000 homeless. President Jose Napoleon Duarte has estimated damage at \$1.2 billion.

A private, California-based relief organisation finally received government authorisation late Friday to fly in disaster relief supplies intended for the Archdiocese of San Salvador.

Earlier, Sand Brim, the executive director of Medical Aid for El Salvador, said her Los Angeles office had been denied landing permission for two planes filled with \$100,000 in emergency supplies.

Although the Salvadoran government denied it was delaying or halting any flights, Ms. Brim said at least 13 other mercy flights by other organisations also had been denied landing rights.

Government authorisation for the flights to land came after Ms. Brim and Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez, the auxiliary Bishop of San Salvador, met Thursday night with U.S. embassy officials and the chief of the civilian commission established by Mr. Duarte to receive and distribute aid.

Gandhi makes a hit in N. Zealand

NGARUAWAHIA, New Zealand (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has made a public and private hit during his visit to New Zealand, officials said Saturday.

Normally reticent New Zealanders have gathered to watch and wave wherever the Indian leader has gone during his official visit of less than three days.

His trip attracted almost as much media coverage as that of Queen Elizabeth earlier this year — and fewer protests.

The image given New Zealanders has been that of a youthful, friendly leader, relaxed despite the tight security that has marked the visit.

After a day in which Mr. Gandhi turned tourist, New Zealand's Prime Minister David Lange told reporters they had strengthened their existing friendship.

The two leaders, both in their early forties, have constantly praised each other in public, using first names, and have been photographed laughing together.

On Saturday, at the end of the first visit to New Zealand by an Indian leader for more than a decade, Mr. Lange told reporters he was emotionally closer to Mr. Gandhi than to any other Commonwealth leader.

"It's a question of age, a question of how often we have met, and an outlook which has been tempered by the same sorts of experiences, curiously," Mr. Lange said.

"He is a prime minister with whom I can speak and who does not address me as if I am some sort of public liability."

Mr. Lange made his comments in this tiny, central North Island town which is one of the centres of New Zealand's Maori culture.

Mr. Gandhi, who had earlier strolled through Rotorua's world-famous geothermal geyser area, spoke briefly in Maori to the several hundred people who turned out to see him and rubbed noses with elders in a traditional "hongi" greeting.

'Captured American's lawyer must be Nicaraguan'

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — The chief defence lawyer for Eugene Hasenfus, a pilot before a people's tribunal must be Nicaraguan, but the captured American will be allowed U.S. legal advisers as well, the justice minister said Friday.

Former U.S. attorney General Griffin Bell has agreed to defend Hasenfus, 45, against charges of violating Nicaragua's law of maintenance of order and public security.

But Nicaraguan Justice Minister Rodrigo Reyes told the Associated Press that while the American defendant "has the right to have anyone he likes as an adviser," Nicaraguan law dictates that he must be represented by a Nicaraguan lawyer registered with the country's supreme court.

Hasenfus, 45, was captured on Oct. 6, the day after Sandinista soldiers in southern Nicaragua shot down a military transport plane from which Hasenfus and three other men were to drop supplies to anti-government contra rebels. The other crewmen died in the crash.

The Justice Ministry announced Thursday that Hasenfus would be tried by the People's Anti-Somocista Tribunal, a body

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1985 Tribune Media Services Inc.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK1053 ♠AK872 ♠983
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass